

Hongkong

THE Weekly Press

AND

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	345
Leading Articles:—	
The King's Birthday	346
New Russo-Chinese Complication	346
Mr. Shewan's Dockyard Scheme	346
Anglo-French Arbitration	347
Naval Birthday Honours	347
The Late Professor Mohnsen's Appeal	348
Hongkong Jottings	348
The King's Birthday Anniversary	348
Victoria Memorial Hospital and Jubilee Road	350
The New Law Courts	351
Shooting Accident in New Territory	353
Hongkong Letters via the Siberian Route	353
The Poverty of Hongkong	353
Wanchai Industries	353
Bowling Club Smoking Concert	354
Canton	354
Swatow	354
Foochow	355
Japan	355
Supreme Court	355
Oxford Local Examinations	358
Sporting Notes	358
Interport Rifle Match	359
Cricket	360
Football	360
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	360
Royal Hongkong Golf Club	361
Bowling	361
Hockey	361
The "Empress of India's" Collision Case	361
Commercial	362
Shipping	364

BIRTHS.

On the 6th November, at "Lan-Mor," Hongkong, the wife of J. WATT JAMESON, of a son.

On the 6th November, at 9, Woosung Road, Shanghai, the wife of JOHN N. HAYWARD, of the China Inland Mission, of a daughter.

On the 7th November, at No. 2, Thorburn Road, Shanghai, the wife of GEO. J. HARMAN, of a son.

On the 7th November, at Thorburn Road, Shanghai, the wife of GEO. J. HARMAN, of a son.

On the 9th November, at 10, Macdonnell Road, the wife of E. T. WRIGHT, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 5th November, at Christ Church, Ningpo, by the Venerable Archdeacon Moule, B.D., assisted by the Rev. A. J. Walker, B.A., the Rev. WILLIAM JOHN WALLACE, of the C.M.S. Taichow, to ANNIE REBEKAH SAVELL ASHWELL, of the C.M.S. Ningpo.

On the 6th November, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by Rev. C. J. Symons, B.A., HENRY STANLEY CONSTEDDINE, of Shanghai, to BRATICE SCHOLEFIELD, of Manchester.

DEATHS.

On the 30th October, at Burlington, Vermont, U.S.A., CHARLES SEYMORE, for many years United States Consul at Canton, aged 82 years.

On the 6th November, at Park House, Quinsan Road, Shanghai, NELLIE, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. THOMAS, aged 7 months and 26 days.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAIIS.

The German Mail of the 18th October arrived by the N.D.L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich* on the 10th inst. (30 days); and the American Mail by the *Nippon-Maru* arrived on the 13th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The King Birthday was duly celebrated in Hongkong on the 9th inst.

An European East-Asiatic Commercial Company has been formed in Lyons for the purpose of furthering French commerce with China and Japan.

The Russian military authorities have recently bought as much as 50,000 acres (8,333 ares) of land near Moukden for the purpose of building barracks thereon.

The Turkish Consul at Singapore, Atonala Bay, jumped from a runaway gharry, returning from the ceremony at Government House on the night of the 9th inst. and was killed.

The Birthday Honours include the following: Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, G.C.B.; Admiral Sir A. H. Markham, Rear-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, Vice Admiral John Fellowes, and Admiral A. F. R. de Horsey, K.C.B.

The *Foochow Echo* mentions a rumour that the Foochow waterworks scheme has fallen through owing to the inability or unwillingness of the Government to supply any capital.

The Stock Exchange in Tokyo towards the end of last month recovered from the partial panic that overtook it for a few days. It seems that the news of Viceroy Alexieff's journey to S. Petersburg was the cause of the alarm.

The Singapore Municipal Estimates for 1904 provide for a revenue amounting to \$1,937,350 against \$1,923,750, the estimate for 1903. The outlay is set at \$2,029,000 against \$1,976,600, the figures for 1903. Special Services require \$215,000 in 1904.

Col. J. R. L. Macdonald, formerly Commissioner at Uganda, is about to advance into Tibet with a large escort of troops owing to the belligerence of the Chinese and Tibetans, who have kept the British Frontier Commissioners idling on the frontier for months.

The *Kobe Chronicle* reports that the Corean troops at Wiju and Pingyang are inclined to be hostile towards the Japanese, this being merely due to the fact that they are influenced by the strength of the Russians, not that the Russians have instigated them. The outrages committed by the Corean troops on the Japanese at Wiju are the result of disputes about the division of profits on the timber trade.

In connection with the anti-Roman Catholic Crusade in Ninghai, Chekiang, the French are said to have made the following demands from the Chinese authorities. (1) The punishment of local authorities. (2) The capture and punishment of the leader of the riot. (3) Indemnity for buildings of the mission destroyed. (4) Indemnity to families of converts killed. Another account says that there is a fifth clause "not disclosed, but believed to be the most important of all."

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* published a despatch dated Peking, 5th November, to the following effect:—Chinese officials deny that there is any truth in the report of Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai being about to be sent to Canton, and to be replaced in Chili by Chou-fu, the Governor of Shantung. [This report was published only by the pro-Japanese paper *Tung-Wen Hu-Pao*, interpolates the *Lloyd's Editor*.] The presence of Yuan Shikai in Peking and his audience with the Empress Dowager were caused by the re-occupation of Moukden by the Russians.

The report that Germany has promised Russia her active support in the Far East is doubted; it is believed that the main outcome of the conference between the Tsar and the Kaiser was the promise of German support to the Austro-Russian reform scheme for Macedonia.

According to the Tokyo correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, Mr. Hagiwara, Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Peking, now visiting the Yalu Valley, reports that the rumours of Russian military movements at Wiju emanated from Japanese subjects, who sought thereby to conceal their own lawless seizure of timber-rafts. It is true that there are Russian soldiers in the vicinity of Wiju but then they are solely engaged in protecting the interests of the lumbermen. As a sequel to his application to the Russian commander at Antung, Mr. Hagiwara was admitted to Yong-ampho, where he was courteously received, and given every facility. He reports that it is difficult to determine whether the building at Yong-ampho is really a fort inasmuch as there are no guns mounted and its position is very bad; but it is of solid construction and indicates an intention of permanent occupation.

The *Japan Mail* writes:—There is a suggestion in some quarters that Viceroy Alexieff's sudden visit to S. Petersburg is subjective rather than objective; in other words, that he wants to go there rather than is wanted to go. This new hypothesis assumes that the division of cuncils in Russia hampers the hands of the Viceroy and renders it impossible for him to assume a definite attitude towards Japan. It does not greatly matter which construction we accept. Each has virtually the same practical result, namely, that the Viceroy's visit to S. Petersburg is an event pregnant with the gravest consequences for Eastern Asia. We are forcibly reminded of Muravioff's celebrated journey to the Russian capital in 1853, and of the memorial he presented to the Tsar on that occasion, a journey and a memorial which had as immediate result an imperial order for the occupation of Sakhalin, and as a later consequence the annexation of the whole region between the Bureya and the sea.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd Co. have come to terms with the Rickmer line of steamers by buying two of their Hongkong-Bangkok steamers, and chartering three others. It is three years now since the Norddeutscher Lloyd of Bremen (Imperial German Mail line) bought up the China coasting fleet of the Scottish and Oriental Steamship Company, thereby securing a good slice of the China Coast trade. The Hongkong-Bangkok trade fell almost entirely into their hands, and this they continued to enjoy for some considerable time. About six months ago, however, five German steamers, belonging to the Rickmer Line, were put on this run in competition with the Norddeutscher Lloyd, and freights accordingly were cut by each company in turn. As a climax, the Norddeutscher Lloyd, determined to run the others off this trade, carried rice from Bangkok to Hongkong free of charge. Apparently, as the Rickmer line was able to hold out and the state of affairs was unsatisfactory and expensive to all concerned, the companies have come to terms as mentioned.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

(Daily Press, 9th November.)

To-day is the sixty-second anniversary of the birthday of His Majesty King EDWARD VII., and Hongkong joins the rest of the Empire in offering loyal congratulations. The day will be observed as a public holiday in the Colony, the Government offices, except the Police Magistrate's, being closed, and most mercantile houses follow the example. Some offices (and to this remark we are inclined to add the word "alas!") of course find it inconvenient to close, and so have to carry on the bulk of their work as on ordinary days. The two principal ceremonies of the day will be the military parade in the Happy Valley in the afternoon, which this year will be additionally attractive, particularly to the Chinese, we may say, by the *feu-de-joie* which is to be fired; and the Ball at Government House to-night, which is the last function of the kind which can be held under the auspices of Sir HENRY and Lady BLAKE, to whom we shall so soon be bidding farewell. These two ceremonies will be a fitting public expression of the feelings entertained in Hongkong toward the ruler of the Empire of which we form part—a small part, it is true, but still an important one, we may safely claim. King EDWARD has passed his sixty-second year in extraordinary activity, more especially when we remember how near he was to the point of death in the previous year. His activity, moreover, has been directed to a great end, one most essentially useful to the British Empire. That end has been the betterment of Great Britain's relations with the other nations of Europe. His desire to serve his country in this manner has long been well known, but during the past year he has deservedly gained for himself the title of "EDWARD the Peacemaker," than which no prouder designation could be bestowed on any king. He has shown that after all the King is not a negligible part of the British constitution, not a mere figurehead. King EDWARD's power, being a power used for good, reconciles his subjects, though proud (and others may say, boastful) of their freedom, to the idea that they have a King who really does share in the government of the empire of which he is called King and Emperor. That he may remain long King and Emperor is the wish of all the British Dominions to-day, and among them most certainly Hongkong. We may close with the conventional words, "Many happy returns of the day" to His Majesty.

NEW RUSSO-CHINESE COMPLICATION.

(Daily Press, 12th November.)

No sooner has the condition of affairs between Japan and Russia begun to assume a favourable aspect—and we note that the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 2nd instant speaks of the indications of a peaceful solution of the difficulties being "much stronger and more definite"—than Russo-Chinese relations seem to have reached a most dangerous stage. It appears from the Shanghai papers that General MA has gone to Shantung with 10,000 troops (so says the Tientsin correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*); that the Grand Council at Peking has issued a circular telegram to the various Viceroy and Provincial Governors, to the effect that "diplomatic relations with Russia are certain to be broken and that all haste must be made to raise funds and troops in anticipation of immediate hostilities"; that YUAN SHI-KAI was summoned to the Palace and anxiously consulted as to the possibility

of fighting Russia; and that the general feeling of all the Peking officials, Manchu and Chinese, is in favour of war, as being the only means of recovering Manchuria. The immediate cause of this sudden awakening of official sentiment is said to be the outrageous conduct of the Russians at Moukden, and in particular their imprisonment of the Tartar General TSENG CHI. But the Government is reported to be in dread of being left in the lurch by Japan. CHANG CHIH and YUAN SHI-KAI are both said to have advised an immediate alliance with Japan, but they do not appear to have convinced the Imperial authorities that Japan will dethrone China up sufficiently. It is quite naturally felt that China cannot cope single-handed with Russia, though with Japan she might have a chance of regaining Manchuria. For the present at least, all friendly relations between China and Russia have been abandoned at Peking. This is all the more remarkable in that the Waiwupu, or Chinese Foreign Office, is now for the first time in its history entirely Manchu, the race from which all Russia's friends (since the time of LI HUNG-CHANG's death) have been drawn. Hitherto Russia has been able to buy all the Manchu support which she required. Either, it seems, the Moukden outrage has at last touched Manchu honour, not a remarkably prominent quality of late, or the Manchu clique is standing out for a larger bribe, as is freely suggested in some quarters. Throughout Chinese officialdom, at any rate, there can be no doubt that indignation is genuine and that the advice of Viceroys YUAN and CHANG meet with approval. But the great Viceroys are not blind to the fact that China alone cannot fight Russia with any chance of success. Russia has an enormous military force in the North, to say nothing of her fleet, while China's army not only lacks equipment and discipline for the most part, but also a number of the best troops are now in the Kwang provinces.

THE Far Eastern situation, already one of extraordinary complexity, seems to become increasingly hard to gauge. Even if we were to allow that there may be a considerable exaggeration in the reports of China's exasperation and change of official front toward Russia, and were at the same time to accept the prophecy of a rapid end of the Russo-Japanese tension as correct, still there would remain a number of most difficult points to clear up. The great wonder seems to be that, after the upset caused by the Allies' campaign in Chiua, following on the situation produced by Japan's defeat of China and its momentous sequels, no further serious troubles have yet broken out. But for the resources of Oriental diplomacy and under this head we are justified in including that of Russia), such could hardly have been the case. The general consensus of opinion seems to be that even this diplomacy cannot protract matters indefinitely. Sooner or later there must be a decision. It may be a decision brought about by the recoiling of the greatest aggressor. Otherwise it must be left to the sword. The latest development presages a greater possibility of Japan and China being found on the same side. What effect this might have upon European alliances few would care to say. At least it could not leave them untested even if unbroken.

The *Straits Times* writes:—We hear a report that the first class cruiser *Amphitrite* is expected here shortly from the Persian Gulf, to be the Senior Naval officer ship. It is believed that in future there will always be a first class cruiser stationed here. Can this be an outcome of the recent conference of the three Admirals?

MR. SHEWAN'S DOCKYARD SCHEME.

(Daily Press, 13th November.)

In the *London Times* of the 13th October, the last number which reached Hongkong by the German Mail, appears a letter from Mr. ROBERT SHEWAN, written in continuation of his former letter in the *Times* last August, when he protested against the decision of the home authorities not to move the Admiralty Dock from its present site in Hongkong to any other site, except under prohibitive conditions. Mr. SHEWAN then stated that he was about to forward to the *Times* a proposal for a far more commodious, economical, and suitable situation than that at present contemplated for the dockyard. The letter before us contains this proposal. The situation which he recommends is in Hunghom Bay, Kowloon, and he arrays the following arguments on behalf of his case:—

The area of the present site (that is, of the old Naval Yard and the extension, and including the military portion) is 44 acres; that at Hunghom would amount to 350 acres.

The sheltered water area now, with a depth of 31 feet at low water, is 9½ acres; at Hunghom it would be 160 acres.

The length of sea-frontage now is 2,400 feet; at Hunghom it would be 5,200 feet.

There is one graving dock on the Island, 550 feet long; there would be three at Hunghom, 1,600 feet in all.

At present the naval work is distributed into four sections, the repairs and victualling being at the Naval Yard, the coaling partly at Kowloon and partly at West Point, and the torpedo-works at Kowloon; in the proposed scheme all work could be concentrated in one establishment, and the now scattered employees could be housed together at the same place.

The estimated cost of the present extension works and equipment amounts to £1,200,000; that of Mr. SHEWAN's proposed scheme is £2,000,000, though it offers three times the present accommodation. Mr. SHEWAN adds that these figures show an extra cost of £800,000, against which there would be the value of the present site, which he puts roughly at £1,000,000 (about 1,000,000 feet, at \$12 per foot), "not including the present plant, machinery, and buildings, which could no doubt be utilised for the new establishment."

Mr. SHEWAN says in conclusion of his letter:—"The alternative scheme would, therefore, give three docks instead of one, double the length of sea-frontage, eight times the area of land, and seventeen times the area of sheltered water, for the same or less cost; would restore to Hongkong its continuous water-front from east to west, and relieve the city of an incubus and the harbour of a nuisance to traffic and an eyesore to everyone." These arguments, it must be admitted, are strong, and those which refer to the municipal and civilian side of the question are incontrovertible. Nevertheless, two queries suggest themselves, in connection with Mr. SHEWAN's proposal which must be answered before we can consider the case in favour of the Hunghom site established. These are:—(1) On what are the figures of the estimated cost of the present and proposed schemes based? and (2) Are there no strategic objections against Hunghom as compared with the present situation? Another point arises in connection with the possible Hunghom reclamation scheme, but this is, no doubt, easy to get over. The two main doubts must be, as we have

suggested, as to the correctness of the estimated costs (about which Mr. SHewan is not explicit), and as to strategic considerations. If these doubts can be laid to rest satisfactorily, then Mr. SHewan's proposal must commend itself to all who have the advancement of Hongkong at heart.

ANGLO-FRENCH ARBITRATION

(*Daily Press*, 7th November.)

There is a story told of an Irishman who went to his spiritual adviser to take the pledge, but with certain reservations: "Barring, your Reverence, one is ill" "Certainly, Pat," was the reply, "whiskey betimes is necessary for the body, and, if the Doctor orders it, who is the man who would say nay?" "And barring one were to meet a friend?" "Well, of course, Pat, it would not be right to treat a friend so meanly as not to take a glass for good company." "And, your Reverence, just suppose one felt inclined?" "Well, Pat, that is a different thing, but supposing one did really feel disposed it would be a hardship to interfere between a man and his inclination." So the pledge was duly made out and signed, to the mutual satisfaction of Pat and his Reverence, and probably no one was the worse. The recent Arbitration Treaty between France and England agreeing to refer to arbitration all matters in dispute between the two countries, providing that they are merely "juridical" and do not affect the "interests nor the honour" of either country is, on the face of it, not very dissimilar from the Irishman's pledge to abstain from whiskey unless he felt so disposed. We should, however, greatly err, were we to assume that the treaty in consequence stands self-condemned, or is in any way likely to prove ineffectual in promoting the best interests of both countries. To understand the position it is necessary to go back nearly two centuries. In the year 1713 was concluded the Treaty of Utrecht, by which in consideration of certain reservations, France ceded to England important territories in America and elsewhere. For several years England had carried on a long continental war with France, with honour and success, but she had to bear a heavy burden and to find means not only to pay her own expenses, but to subsidise largely those allies in whose interest the war had been undertaken. The main objects of the war having been gained, the peace party in England clamoured for a cessation of the strife, and, France being willing to come to terms, a peace was patched up. That an honourable peace could have been obtained was notorious, but party politics ran high, with the result that the treaty finally entered into was felt to be an ignoble surrender of the main points at issue. The treaty, drawn up almost under French dictation, was not only badly conceived, but was carelessly worded, so that from the beginning there was considerable ambiguity in the interpretation; and this ambiguity was in many cases taken advantage of to the detriment of British interests. Withal, it is characteristic of the general desire of England to remain on good terms with her neighbour that in no case were these attempts to strain the meaning of the treaty permitted to become the occasion of war between the two countries; nor, what is more remarkable, notwithstanding the numerous opportunities offered during the wars of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, did England ever attempt to denounce or modify in her own immediate interests the injurious or ambiguous clauses of the treaty.

England has, however, always held, and circumstances of late years have emphasised the contention, that the construction placed on certain of the clauses by France is really contrary to the plain intent of the instrument, and is becoming increasingly injurious to the British Imperial interests. On the other hand, except as offering a possible source of embarrassment to England, the importance to France of the immunities claimed has been, it is allowed, steadily diminishing. From motives supposed to concern the honour of France, all approaches with the object of reviewing the treaty or the interpretation placed on it have up to the present been met with a persistent cry of "*non possumus*", while at the same time even the French Foreign Office has acknowledged that possible hardships might exist. It will thus be seen, not only that there do exist grounds for arbitration between the two countries on points essentially juridical, but that those points though in the absence of a regular understanding barred from discussion between the two countries as approaching the point of national "honour" may very well, under the acknowledgment of a hardship continuing to exist, be held to come into the permissible conditions of arbitration.

The main point, then, of the new treaty is not what it actually grants, but that it permits certain points to enter into a calm field of discussion, free from what may be looked upon as merely sentimental considerations. The grievance of having no method of discussing differences of opinion, however trivial, without recourse to the supreme arbitration of the sword, is one from which both countries have suffered detriment during the two centuries, and the merit of the new treaty is that, while it enables both countries to take advantage of the new facilities where it offers, it compels neither to place its national honour in the scale. It will thus be seen that the permanent relations of the two countries are for the future placed on a more satisfactory basis, and that henceforth it will be possible to discuss calmly many subjects which false or overstrained ideas of honour or mere sentiment have hitherto barred, to the mutual embarrassment of both countries.

NAVAL BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

(*Daily Press*, 10th November.)

The Naval Birthday Honours telegraphed out by our London correspondent will be read with interest here. Three at least of the recipients have names very well known in China, though there may be few who remember at once that Admiral MARKHAM was actively engaged in Chinese affairs. Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's connection with this part of the world was brief, but very important. Our present Admiral makes the third. Admiral Sir CYPRIAN ARTHUR GEORGE BRIDGE, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief on the China Station since 1901, was born in 1839, the son of the Ven. Archdeacon Bridge. He entered the Navy in 1853, serving next year in the White Sea. The year of the Indian Mutiny found him in a very different clime, that of the Bay of Bengal, and he proceeded after that with the Naval Brigade to Burma. In 1877 he gained his captaincy, and in the next two years he was appointed member of the Heavy Guns Committee and the War Office Committee on Machine Guns respectively. In 1881 he was on the Ordnance Committee, and in 1889 he was made Director of Naval Intelligence, a post which he held until 1895, when he was given command on the Australian Station, having attained Rear-Admiral's

rank in the meantime. He left Australian waters in 1898, the year of his becoming Vice-Admiral, and in the following year was made a Knight Commander of the Bath. He came out here two years ago, in succession to Admiral SEYMOORE, and in August last reached the rank of full Admiral. His career, it will be seen, except for its earliest days, has been rather of an indoor nature and it is his head which has won him the well-earned honour of G.C.B.

Of the four new Knight Commanders, Admiral ALBERT HASTINGS MARKHAM was formerly a very active member of the Royal Navy out here. Born in 1841, he entered the Navy fifteen years later and served for eight years on the China Station, being a member of the expedition which captured Peking in 1860, and sharing in the suppression of the Taiping rebellion. On leaving China he went to the Mediterranean and Australian stations, but his most noted feat was when he took command of the *Alert* on the Arctic Expedition of 1875-76, and succeeded in planting the British flag in the highest northern position reached up to then. This gained him promotion to captaincy, as well as the gift of a gold watch from the Royal Geographical Society. He subsequently paid various visits to the Arctic seas, and his books on the subject are widely known. Professionally he became Commodore of the Training Squadron in 1886, Rear-Admiral in 1891, Vice-Admiral in 1897, and Admiral in January last. He is now commander-in-chief at the Nore.

Of so popular a figure as Admiral Lord CHARLES WILLIAM DELAPOER BERESFORD it hardly seems necessary to say much. He was born in Ireland in 1846, and entered the *Britannia* in 1859. At the bombardment of Alexandria he came to the front as commander of H.M.S. *Condor*, gaining a medal and being specially mentioned in despatches for gallantry. He served on the staff of Lord WOLSELEY in the Nile Expedition in 1884-85, and commanded the naval brigade at Abu Klea and Metemneh, being again mentioned. On his return home he was made a commissioner to the Admiralty, but resigned two years later on a question about the strength of the fleet. It was after he reached the rank of Rear-Admiral at the end of 1897 that he paid a visit to China, at the request of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Great Britain. The result was his famous book *The Break-up of China*. In 1902 he became Vice-Admiral, and he is now Senior Officer in Command of the Channel Fleet. He is a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. It must also be mentioned that he sat for Parliament for Waterford in 1874-80, and for East Marylebone in 1885-89. No British Admiral of the present day is better known.

Vice-Admiral JOHN FELLOWES, like Admiral BERESFORD, saw fighting in Egypt. Born in 1843, his first service was on the East African coast. In 1882 he was in the Egyptian War, and in 1885 on the Suakin Expedition. In 1894 he was appointed Superintendent of the Sheerness Dockyard, and next year he became Rear-Admiral, rising to Vice-Admiral in 1901. Admiral ALGERNON FREDERICK ROUS DE HORSEY is the least known name out here now. He is on the retired list, having become Rear-Admiral in 1875, Vice-Admiral in 1879, and Admiral in 1885. Alone of the five singled out for honour, Admiral DE HORSEY is not still on active service.

A sham fight took place at Peitang on the 30th ult., the Sherwood Foresters and Tientsin Volunteers turning out against the 21st Punjab Infantry.

THE LATE PROFESSOR MOMMSEN'S APPEAL.

(Daily Press, 11th November.)

No SURPRISE will be felt at the fact that the report of Germany's promise to Russia of active support in the Far East is doubted. The rumour may be surmised to have had its origin in St. Petersburg. It is a couple of weeks now since it was intimated in telegrams from Europe that the German Press was looking boldly on suggestions that such an agreement would be the outcome of the meeting of Kaiser and Tsar, and although the tale has been revived several times since it has never been traced to any trustworthy source. It has been semi-officially stated on many occasions that Germany has no interests in Manchuria, and is averse to taking any steps which would be likely to compromise her in the wrangling over the province. In accordance with the German interpretation of the Anglo-German agreement respecting the integrity of China, this is a logical attitude, and what inducement Germany could have to depart from it to such an extent as to bring in sight the possibility of Germany having to go to war to support Russia it would be indeed difficult to imagine. Particularly at this time it might be thought that the statesmen of Berlin would be unwilling to embark on a line of policy distinctly threatening to Great Britain. The overtures of late made by Germany to Britain have every appearance of sincerity. The latest of these which we have seen is one from the pen of Professor THEODOR MOMMSEN, the celebrated historian, jurist, and politician, who died since writing the article which appears over his name in the first number of the new *Independent Review*. This article is headed "Ein Deutscher an die Engländer," in English "A German's Appeal to the English." This article attracted, it seems from the recent mail papers, no little attention, not only in England but also in Germany and in France. The aged professor asked why it is that the wholesome and necessary criticism which all nations exercise towards one another seems to degenerate into race hatred. He had no doubt himself that this was brought about by the late war in South Africa. The vigorous expression of German feeling, wrote MOMMSEN, could not but give offence in England, but he asked if it is too much to ask to day that Englishmen should understand these feelings in Germany. He admitted that Germany has her national fools—"Pan-Germans" is their name in our country, he adds—who believe in a special Teutonic ADAM, concentrating in his own person all the glories of the human spirit. But, MOMMSEN claims, the Germans feel themselves more nearly akin and in every respect more intimately allied to the English than to any other nations. "The English language is, after all, in its main elements Saxon; and SHAKESPEARE has been the spiritual deliverer of our country, and in fact the father of its poetry." The article continues:—

"Nor is the attitude of Germany to the new English Imperialism in any way a hostile one. From a large point of view, every increase of the weight which England asserts in the politics of the world is certainly no disadvantage for the future of Germany. If England, by drawing closer the unity of her Empire, succeeds in warding off the dangers which the last war in particular has disclosed, that will no more injure our vital interests than English interests were injured by the conversion of the German Zollverein into the German Empire. We may hold fast

"to the hope that, in the fearful crises which our civilisation will probably have to meet, England and Germany will stand together as they did once, when, at La Belle Alliance, they united to put a term to the preponderance of France."

A French comment on the above, found in the Paris *Temps*, is amusing. The writer says:—"After annexing the English language and WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, Professor MOMMSEN concludes by offering with one hand an olive branch to Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN and by pointing with the other towards Waterloo and the French frontier." Yet the majority of thoughtful Britons must hope that MOMMSEN's wish, which he utters in the last sentence of his article, and which is therefore his last word to us, may not be incapable of realisation. "Still I hold the creed," he said, "that German and Englishman are destined to go forward hand in hand." This appeal seems to have been read with mixed feelings in Germany, many holding with the *Berlin Post* that it unduly blames Germany for Anglo-German coolness, and that its publication is only to be regretted by all true Germans. The French journal *Le Matin*, on the other hand, looks on the article as a patriotic appeal addressed to the English, entreating them to forget the wounds inflicted on their *amour propre* by Germany during the South African war. "This new *entente cordiale* seems to have for its openly avowed object to counteract the effect of the recent Anglo-French demonstrations," says the *Matin*. Possibly this is the juster view, or rather Professor MOMMSEN probably wrote with a double object. In any case, his last word deserves to be read and thought over. It is not without a certain pathos, now that the illustrious writer is dead.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 9th November.)

There is no doubt we shall hear a great deal of "God save the King!" to-day in Hongkong, and I am sure that the wish is very genuinely uttered. Tedious persons have computed on former occasions the amount of times which the expression is used *per diem* all over the British Empire on such great days as this, and the amount of noise made by the National anthems played in the twenty-four hours. I am glad to say I forget both sums, but I remember enough to be thankful I am not hearing all these anthems at once. A *fun-de-joue* is quite enough for me. I hear that it is likely to be so also for some of the horses at to-day's Parade in the Happy Valley. It has even been hinted that we may see an officer or two suddenly dismounted; of course I would not for the world mention about which corps this prophecy has been made. It will doubtless be a consolation to think that such things have happened in the best regulated cavalry, and even in Royal processions. The Parade, however, will certainly be enjoyed by all nationalities in our varied selection on this Island, and by none more than by the Chinese.

There are two matters of domestic concern which one rarely fails to hear discussed nowadays in Hongkong wherever two or three householders are gathered together. I refer to rents and gas. With regard to the rents which residential property now commands both on the Island and at Kowloon, I have heard the opinion expressed that rents are higher in Hongkong than in any other city or town in the whole world. It may be, but, on the other hand, there are few places I suspect, where the cost of building a house approaches the figures which are now asked in Hongkong. Lucky are the men who invested money in house property ten years ago or more. I heard recently of an offer of \$70,000 being made for some house property on the Hill which originally cost its owner only \$7,000, and that offer was declined. Rents in recent years have taken very big jumps,

Houses which let seven or eight years ago for \$40 and \$50 a month are now sought after at \$100 and \$120, not including taxes. Evidently some people in Hongkong must be making money in spite of the instability of the silver dollar.

As to gas—well, if the supply were in the hands of an individual rather than in those of a company or corporation, which in classic phrase is "without a body to be kicked or a soul to be damned," his lease of life would be short. The complaints made in the few letters which have appeared in the local papers are re-echoed apparently by scores of consumers on the higher levels of the Colony, and from the many cases which have come within my own knowledge I imagine the time of at least one clerk must be pretty fully occupied in reading and giving unsatisfactory replies to letters of complaint both as to deficiency of pressure in the mains and erratic charges. Let us hope that with the completion of the work which the company now has in hand—I refer to the provision of larger mains—these causes of complaint will be remedied. This work ought to have been taken in hand long ago.

Jack ashore dearly loves a bicycle. Any evening as the dusk approaches one can see him wheeling his damaged machine back to the bicycle-shop, for it is a curious thing that he nearly always contrives to have a spill in the crowded streets. The other day I saw two bluejackets coming from the East end into town. One's bicycle had broken down, both pedals gone, and the other had the derelict in tow with a rope. There is just a suspicion, though, that some of the Chinese bicycle-hirers "fake" the machines before letting them out to the sailors so that they will be almost sure to collapse in some part. Then of course the dealer pockets the \$5 security which Jack had to lay down before he could get out the bicycle.

Many Hongkong residents will regret to learn of the death of Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, K.C.B., who was Commander-in-Chief on the China station from 1895 to 1897. During that time the Admiral made himself very popular in the East, and the highest regard was entertained for him. He died with painful suddenness last month whilst hunting in his native county of Devonshire. Admiral Buller was I believe the first president of the Devonian Society of Hongkong, and a prominent place is always found for his portrait on the wall of the room in which the society has its annual dinner.

It is not generally known that among the celebrities of Hongkong there is a famous old canine campaigner. He is a little bit of a dog and has the honour of wearing five medals for the service he has seen, namely Crete, Egypt, South Africa, North China and the Relief of Peking. He belonged to Sergeant W. Jones of the Welsh Fusiliers, and it was with regret that the regiment had to leave him here, owing to the regulations in force. Mr. F. T. Robins, of the Victoria Gaol staff, is the present owner.

BANYAN.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY.

CELEBRATION IN HONGKONG.

In common with all parts of the Empire throughout the globe, Hongkong on Monday celebrated the 62nd anniversary of the birthday of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward the VII. Excellent weather favoured the occasion. In the morning the Royal Standard was hoisted at Headquarter House, at the Naval Yard, and on H.M.S. *Tamar*. All the warships and the shipping in the Harbour were gaily decorated with bunting, and at noon a Royal Salute was fired. In the afternoon there was a grand review of the troops of the garrison by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and this was witnessed by a great concourse of spectators. In the evening a ball was given at Government House. The Portuguese cruiser *Diu* was notable for its illumination by night.

THE GARRISON PARADE.

As indicated above, the grand parade of the garrison held in the afternoon was the main feature of the day's celebrations, and from a spectacular point of view it presented a sight to be remembered by those who saw it. For a function of this nature few finer amphitheatres could be found in the world than the Happy Valley, with its ample area of flat ground encircled by verdant hills and timber-clad slopes. As early as 3 p.m. the Racecourse was crowded with spectators, including thousands of Chinese, to whom the parade especially appealed. At the saluting base, where floated the Royal Standard, and in the Racecourse Grand Stand, which had been thrown open to the public, there were assembled all the best-known citizens and the youth and beauty of Hongkong. The bright dresses of the ladies lent the necessary touch of colour to the animated scene.

It was at four o'clock that the parade had been timed to commence; but long before that hour the troops began to arrive, with bands playing, and took up their positions in review order. There took part in the parade the Naval Brigade, the Royal Garrison Artillery, the Royal Engineers, the 1st Sherwood Foresters, the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion Royal Garrison Artillery, the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, and the 93rd Burma Infantry. As the different contingents marched on to the Happy Valley in their distinctive and variegated uniforms they presented a spectacle that appealed to the eye of the beholder with wonderful effect. The troops from Kowloon entered the ground by the new three-quarter mile track; the others by the entrance at the Golf Club-house. As they each took up their respective stations, the bands were massed in the rear of the centre under the bandmaster of the 1st Sherwood Foresters. The state of parade was as follows:

British Native Rank & Officers		Total	
E.N.	14	292	36
R.G.A.	16	364	330
R.E.	3	110	113
1st S.F.	8	265	273
H.K.S.B.R.G.A.	10	224	238
H.K.V.C.	11	110	121
110th Mahratta L.I.	7	435	453
93rd Burma I.	8	15	54
Grand Totals	77	2,304	2,411

Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E., Officer Commanding the Troops, was in command, and his staff consisted of Major A. A. Chichester, D.S.O., Chief Staff Officer; Major T. W. G. Bryan, O.C.R.A., and Lieut. M. K. Hodgson, 1st Sherwood Foresters, Acting A.D.C.

His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, on horseback, accompanied by Sir John Keane, A.D.C., Lieut. H. W. Smith, R.A. (galloper), and Subadar Iqbal Singh, H.K.S.B.R.A. (hon. extra A.D.C.), arrived on the parade ground at 1 p.m. and the Royal Standard was hoisted at the saluting base. Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E., Officer Commanding the Troops, and his staff were also mounted. H.E. wore the dress of a Lieutenant-General, and was decorated with his Orders.

After the Royal Salute had been given H.E. proceeded to inspect the division, which was drawn up as follows:

Royal Garrison Artillery in the front centre, with the Marines and Bluejackets on their right, and the Royal Engineers and Sherwood Foresters (with colours) on the left. In the rear were the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, 93rd Burma Infantry, Hongkong Volunteers and Hongkong and Singapore Battalion of Royal Artillery. Bluejackets and Marines were in white, and other companies in khaki. The red turbans of the H.K.S.B.R.A., and the yellow sashes of the 93rd Burmas lent colour to the picture.

When inspection was finished the artillery commenced a Royal salute with seven guns, a *feu-de-joie* was given, seven bars of the National Anthem, another seven guns, *feu-de-joie*, seven bars of the National Anthem, seven guns, *feu-de-joie*, and eight bars of the National Anthem. Arms were then presented, and the massed bands struck up "God save the King." On arms being brought to the order three cheers were given for the King, H.E. giving the time.

Companies were formed into quarter column by the right and marched past the saluting

base. The order was:—General and staff in front of the companies (100 in a company) of Bluejackets, followed by one company (50) Marines; the bands played "Life on the Ocean Wave." Next followed three companies of Royal Garrison Artillery, marching to the tune of "The British Grenadier"; and afterwards in turn the Royal Engineers, Sherwood Foresters, Hongkong and Singapore Battalion of Royal Artillery (marching to the Indian bagpipes), the Volunteers, the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, the 114th Mahrattas, and the 93rd Burmas.

Afterwards the troops advanced in review order and saluted; the National Anthem was played, and the parade terminated.

It is hard to say which company marched past best. The Bluejackets went by in good style and were loudly applauded, as also were the others. The Royal Engineers and Sherwood Foresters made excellent lines and the native soldiers were unexcelled. As for the Hongkong Volunteers, they carried themselves in a soldierly manner, but at the same time there was a marked difference between them and the regulars.

Happy Valley was well surrounded with spectators; in fact it quite reminded one of the Races. The police arrangements were perfect, good order being preserved everywhere. In a compound by the saluting base were a number of British Army and Naval officers, officers from the Portuguese gunboat *Diu*, Lady Blake, General and Mrs. Bragg, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Hon. Basil R. H. Taylor, and many other prominent people of the Colony.

BALL AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

At 9 p.m. the same night H.E. Sir Henry Blake and Lady Blake entertained a large party of guests at a Ball at Government House in honour of His Majesty's Birthday. The grounds were decorated with Chinese lanterns, the ballroom and other rooms showed evidence of the decorative skill of Mr. W. T. Tucher, of the Botanical Department, and the band of the Sherwood Foresters was in attendance. It was about 9.30 when the following party formed up for the first quadrille:—H.E. the Governor and Lady Goodman, Commodore Robinson & Lady Blake, Colonel Brown and Lady Berkeley, Hon. F. H. May and Mrs. Robinson, Sir Henry Berkeley and Mrs. Johnston, Hon. L. A. M. Johnston and Mrs. Dickson, Sir Paul Chater and Mrs. Basil Taylor.

After this the programme was proceeded with by those who danced, while below Bridge was in full swing at several tables. At 11 o'clock the supper interval was held and the toast of H.M. the King was proposed by Sir Henry Blake and drunk with acclamations. After this dancing recommenced to the accompaniment of the Sherwood Foresters' excellent music and was kept up to about 1 a.m., when the guests finally dispersed to their various homes.

Those present were:—Mr. and Miss Armstrong, Mr. H. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Allan, Engineer-Commander Anstey, Hon. Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. R. J. Birbeck, Mr. G. Brusse, Major and Mrs. Baker Brown, General and Mrs. Bragg, Commander W. C. Beehler, Major and Mrs. Benson, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Boggan, Mr. C. E. Beavis, the Rev. G. A. Bunbury, Mr. Brown, Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Archdeacon and Mrs. Banister, Mr. John Barton, Major and Mrs. Bewley, Mr. and Mrs. Bowdler, Mr. C. H. Blason, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Mrs. and Miss. Bateman, the Rev. and Mrs. W. Bridie, Mr. Butterworth, Major and Mrs. Frank Bunny, Miss J. F. Boulton, Capt. Brock and the officers of H.M.S. *Alacrity*, Mr. R. E. O. Bird, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Birdwood, Major Bryan and officers of the R.G.A., Mr. Brazier, Major and Mrs. Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Browne, Mr. Hart Buck, Dr. R. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Murray Bain, Lieut.-Col. Birdwood and the officers of the 110th Mahratta L.I., Mr. Bremner, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Major Bryan and the officers of the Hongkong and Singapore Battalion of Royal Artillery, Hon. Sir Henry and Lady Berkeley and the Misses Berkeley, Capt. and Mrs. Boyd, Col. Brown and the officers of the Royal Engineers, Miss Berker, Mr. Babington, Mr. and Miss Bird, Hon. W. Chatham, Major and Mrs. C. Caulfield, Mr. Crofton, Mr. and Mlle. de Champeaux,

Mr. A. H. Cook, Mrs. Crowley, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Cocker, Mr. James H. Cox, Capt. and Mrs. Crichton, Lieut. and Mrs. Quentin Craufurd, Major and Mrs. Chapman, Major A. Chichester, Mr. T. P. Cochrane, Mr. W. G. Clark, Lieut.-Col. Candy and the officers of the 114th Mahratta L. I., Mr. Chow Hing Ki, Mr. Chan Sin Ki, Commander Daintree and officers of H.M.S. *Humber*, Mr. and Mrs. Drewitt, Miss Doberck, Mr. and Mrs. Haver Droeze, Mr. and Mrs. Denison, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Dixon, Capt. and Mrs. Davies, Miss Denton, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Danby, Mr. J. D. Danby, Dr. and Mrs. Drew, Commander Dean and Mrs. Dawes, Commander Dean and officers of H.M.S. *Tamar*, the Hon. C. W. and Mrs. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Trenchard Davies, Mr. E. E. Deacon, Miss Duar, Miss Eyre, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Fullerton, Mr. Donald Forbes, Mr. Fuhrmann, Mr. H. G. Fisher, Col. and Mrs. Ferrier, Mr. Andrew Forbes, Major French, Mr. A. C. Franklin, Capt. and Mrs. Fitzwilliams, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Dr. O. Gumprecht, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Grey, Mr. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. Grimble, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Grist, Mr. and Mrs. Goddard, Mr. and Mrs. Gros, Dr. and Mrs. Gibson, Miss Gourley, Mr. and Mrs. Gompertz, Mr. Philip Goldring, Mr. T. C. Gray, Miss Gorham, Mr. F. G. Goosmann, Miss Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Grace, Sir William, Lady, and the Misses Goodman, Mr. C. E. A. Hance, Mr. J. H. R. Hance, Capt. Hardy and the officers of H.M.S. *Waterwitch*, Mr. and Mrs. B. Brotherton Harker, Mr. H. Hackwood, Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Mr. T. A. Hanmer, Mr. Paget Hett, Mrs. and Miss Hance, Mr. Ho Fook, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Hughes, Mr. H. Hopkins, the Rev. Mr. Hardy, Miss Homan, Mr. W. Stuart Harrison, Miss Hampers, Mr. A. H. Hollingsworth, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. Hirds, Mr. Hankey, Capt. Hollinshead, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hamman, Mr. H. Hancock, The Rev. C. H., Mrs. and Miss Hickling, Mrs. and Miss Hazelton, Miss Hawley, Mr. T. Hamman, Dr. and Mrs. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Hooper, Mr. H. K. Holmes, Miss H. Jones, Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Irving, the Rev. and Mrs. Icely, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones, Mr. Jackson, Dr. Jordan, Hon. L. A. M. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. P. N. H. Jones, Mr. J. W. Jones, the Rev. F. T. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. B. James, Mr. R. F. Johnston, Mr. Jaffe, Dr. and Mrs. Koch, Mr. Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Kadoorie, Mr. Kwok Sin Lan, Mr. John J. B. Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. Leiria, Mr. James Lee, Capt. and Mrs. Lyons, Capt. Lloyd, Mr. Gaston Liebert, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. P. Lammert, Mrs. G. R. Lammert, Mr. and Mrs. Lambelle, Mr. H. W. Looker, Miss Laine, Mr. Law, Mr. and Miss Hunter Lane, Mr. A. R. Lowe, Surgeon and Mrs. Lumley, Dr. and Mrs. Laing, Mr. C. Lambkin, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lowe, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Mr. Layton, Miss Lee, M. and Mrs. Pierre Marty, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Master, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Magalhaes, the Rev. E. B. Mostyn, Mr. R. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Maitland, the Rev. F. de Maria, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Mitchell, Mr. Melchers, Miss Macpherson, Mr. L. N. Murphy, Mr. Masai Chi Noma, Mr. H. M. S. Man, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell MacMillan, Mr. Carl Michelan, Mr. C. W. May, Mr. and Mrs. Moxon, Dr. and Mrs. MacFarlane, the Hon. F. H. and Mrs. May, Mr. C. Melbourne, Mr. C. Messor, Surgeon and Mrs. Norris, Mr. North, Mr. Nicolls, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. Ollis, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Major and Mrs. Ormiston, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Ough, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Ormiston, Miss Pitts, Major and Mrs. Prait, the Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli, Major and Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton, Capt. and Mrs. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Playfair, Mr. W. L. Patten, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Powell, Dr. Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Pinckney, Mr. L. S. Piercy, Mr. P. C. Potts, Mr. and Mrs. Piercy, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Richards, Dr. Ronnie, Mr. N. H. Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. Romano, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. E. Ralphs, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rodgers, Major Radcliff and officers of the 93rd

Burma Infantry, Capt. C. Stewart Richards, Miss Renwick, Commodore and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. C. H. Ross, Mr. R. E. N. Padfield, Mr. and Mrs. Rennie, Mr. Ahmet Rumjahn, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. D. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Storey, Mr. H. A. Siebs, Mr. S. W. Tso, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Schubart, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Smith, Mr. Sin Tak Fan, the Rev. and Mrs. Southam, Major and Mrs. Strickland, Mr. and Mrs. Sayer, Capt. and Mrs. Simpson, the Rev. G. H. Spada, Mr. and Mrs. Saundry, Mr. and Mrs. Seaton, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Slade, Mrs. Leslie Stuart, Capt. Stopford and the officers of H.M.S. Blenheim, Mr. Murray Stewart, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, Mr. C. R. Scott, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Arathoon Seth, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Slade, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. W. R. Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Dr. and Mrs. Swan, Mr. N. J. Stabb, Mr. J. Stodart, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Sispe, Miss Stoddard, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. Philip W. Sergeant, Miss Schafer, Mr. Tanner, Mr. C. B. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Tooker, Mr. and Mrs. Townshend, Mr. and Mrs. Tutcher, Mr. and Mrs. Tomes, Mr. and Mrs. Basil Taylor, Mr. H. A. Toser, Capt. and Mrs. Tulloch, Mr. and Mrs. A. Turner, Mr. Un Lai Chuen, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tang, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Kom Tong, Mr. Veitch, Consul-General and Mrs. Volpicelli, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon, Mr. J. Y. V. Vernon, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Woodcock, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Arthur J. Williams, Mr. W. B. Walker, Col. Webb and Officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Mr. J. W. White, Mr. and Mrs. James Woods, Mr. A. E. Wright, Mr. James Whittan, Mr. H. C. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. Wenborn, Mr. F. W. Ware, Col., Mrs. and Miss Wally, Lieut.-Col. Wally and the Officers of the 1st Sherwood Foresters, Col. and Mrs. Webb, Mr. A. G. Wood, His Honour A. G. Wise, Dr. and Mrs. Bateson Wright, the Rev. T. Wright, Mr. Young Piu Chi, Hon. Wei Yuk, Mr. and Mrs. Eung Shin Wa, Mr. Wei On, and Mr. and Mrs. Ho Yow.

VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND JUBILEE ROAD.

OPENING CEREMONY.

On the 7th inst. the Victoria Memorial Hospital was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., and the Jubilee Road handed over to the Government by Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., on behalf of the Jubilee Committee. The ceremony took place at the Hospital in Barker Road. Among those present were Lady Blake, Sir John Keane, Bart. Private Secretary; His Honour Sir William M. Goodman, Chief Justice, and Lady Goodman; Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General, and Lady Berkeley; Mrs. May; Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Captain F. W. Lyons, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; Dr. G. H. Bateson Wright, Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Mr. L. C. Rees, Mr. B. Brotherton Harker, Mr. J. R. Michael, Dr. E. A. R. Laing, Mr. H. W. Bird, Mr. Ho Fook, Mr. S. W. Tso, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, and Mr. Hu Shun Chuen. The building was finely decorated with flags, the decorations having been carried out by Ldg. Signalmen F. Ransted and W. Foster, of the Tunar, under the superintendence of Mr. J. Coyle of the Public Works Department.

His Excellency the Governor having taken up a position on the steps leading to the door of the Hospital.

Hon. Sir PAUL CHATER said—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen—The Committee formed for the purpose of securing for this Colony an adequate and suitable permanent memorial of the late Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee—or such few of them as are left after a six years' interval—have invited your Excellency to meet them here to-day to take over, as head of the Government, this building and a new road recently constructed. The committee was formed in 1897 to consider what form the memorial subscribed for by a loyal population should take, and how best to carry

their wishes into effect, and now, in the closing months of 1903, having brought their labours to a satisfactory conclusion, they ask to be relieved of their responsibilities. After much discussion it was agreed to have two memorials, one, in deference to the late Queen's well-known predilection for works of mercy, to take the form of a Hospital, and the other, to meet a widely-expressed wish, to be a carriage road to encircle the island. These works were to commemorate, in lasting manner, the sixtieth anniversary of her late revered Majesty's glorious reign. As the scheme for this commemoration originated during the administration of your Excellency's predecessor, Sir William Robinson, I think it will be both interesting and appropriate to briefly recapitulate the circumstances attending the inception of the plan and subsequent creation of these public memorials of the gracious lady who may be justly described as the greatest Queen in history. I will go back to the commencement, when it had been resolved to worthily celebrate, in an enduring manner, this great occasion. Subscriptions were invited from the community in 1897 on the understanding that a Hospital for Women and Children and a Nursing Institute should be erected, and that the first section of a road to encircle the main portion of the island of Hongkong should be constructed. These works, I am glad to say, have now been completed, so far as the Hospital and the section of the road are concerned. Many difficulties, which could not have been foreseen by the Committee, have been encountered, necessarily delaying the work, but, as will be seen, they were overcome at length, and we now have the pleasure of recording their completion. The amount available from the sum subscribed, after defraying the cost of the local celebrations of the event, was \$182,424.00, and this was divided equally between the two projects, giving for each \$91,212. I propose for the sake of convenience to deal separately with them, and will refer first to the Hospital. The scheme originally provided for the erection of a building in the grounds of the Government Civil Hospital, and included a Nursing Institute, which was to form an adjunct of the staff quarters of that institution. Competitive designs were invited, and were in due course sent in by the local architects, but before any decision had been arrived at regarding these, a letter was received from the Principal Civil Medical Officer urging that the proposed Hospital should be erected at the Peak and suggesting that "Craigieburn" might be acquired for the purpose. This letter was considered by the committee, and though the suggestion for the purchase of "Craigieburn" was not adopted, there was a consensus of opinion in favour of acquiring a site on the higher levels instead of erecting the building in the Civil Hospital compound. A resolution to the effect that a site not lower than Robinson Road should be selected was accordingly carried. Some difficulty was experienced by the committee in finding a desirable site, but fortunately Barker Road was then under construction, and after examination of those sites available, it was decided to apply to the Government for the ground on which we are now assembled. You, Sir, readily consented to grant the site, and the committee then concentrated its energies on securing the best building possible for the funds at its disposal. Owing to the greater cost of building on the high levels, and the necessity of providing quarters for the staff required, the Committee found that the funds were not sufficient to erect both the Hospital and the Nursing Institute as well. It became necessary, therefore, to refer the matter to the Government, and your Excellency, recognising the difficulty, kindly consented to recommend to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that an adjunct to the Government Civil Hospital be erected for a Nursing Institute. This sanction having been obtained, and the Hospital being now completed, it remains for the Government to carry out your Excellency's recommendation, and speaking for the Committee, I hope no time will be lost in bringing the scheme to perfection by erecting this adjunct. Having reached this stage, it was hoped that the fulfilment of the scheme for the Hospital would proceed without impediment. The plans and estimates had been prepared by Messrs. Palmer

and Turner, whose original design was considered first in order of merit in the competition which had been held for a building in the Civil Hospital Grounds; but when tenders were invited they proved so far in excess of the estimates that it seemed impossible to proceed further. After much trouble, a tender was finally obtained at a rate within the funds at the disposal of the Committee, and the work has now, as you see, been successfully completed. The total expenditure upon the Hospital and quarters has been \$11,891.65, and with the interest which has accrued on the principal, we have been enabled practically to meet this sum. There have, however, been some extras incurred—as is the case in every large building—which you, Sir, have kindly undertaken, on the part of the Government, to defray, our funds being absolutely exhausted. Turning now to the Road, as I have already stated, one-half of the Fund, amounting to \$92,191.69, was allotted for its construction. A considerable period was spent in the making of surveys and preparation of estimates, which were carried out by the Public Works Department, under the guidance of the late Director, Mr. R. D. Ormsby, the work extending from Kennedy Town via Aberdeen, Stanley and Tyamtak to Shaukiwan. When this preliminary work had been completed, Mr. Ormsby reported very unfavourably upon the section of the road which it was proposed to make out of the Fund, namely that from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen, whilst Major-General Black, then General Officer Commanding, raised serious objection to its construction on military grounds. Several ineffectual attempts were made locally to overcome the opposition to the scheme, and finally an appeal to Downing Street on the subject became necessary. This appeal was successful, but the sanction for the construction of the road was hampered in its being laid on a higher level than was originally intended. The carrying out of this scheme was entrusted to Messrs. Denison, am and Gibbs, who devised a suitable route for the road, and tenders were received which came within the means apportioned to it, and the work has been satisfactorily concluded. Having thus contributed this section of the Jubilee Road, we now look to the Government to take in hand the completion of the project for a high road that will practically encircle the island, opening up all its many beauties to lovers of scenery and of nature. The total cost of these two works has been \$234,163.32, and I may here point out that the delays entailed by the various difficulties encountered have not been without some compensating advantages inasmuch as the interest accumulated on the Fund materially augmented our resources and has permitted of the original proposals being carried out in a substantial and workmanlike manner. Having now stated in outline the history of these two Memorial works, it only remains for me to ask your Excellency to be good enough to declare the Hospital open, to effect which purpose I beg to hand you this silver key. (Applause.)

His EXCELLENCY, having accepted the key, said—Sir Paul Chater, ladies and gentlemen—I have listened with great interest to your account of the Road and the Hospital that were rightly decided upon as a fitting memorial of that beloved Queen whose memory will always remain green in our hearts and whose name will go down the ages as the greatest amongst the great Queens of history. The difficulties about the Jubilee Road I remember very well. When I came here first the foundation-stone had just been laid by my predecessor in the presence of a considerable crowd, among them, no doubt, the General Officer Commanding, who instead of opposing the Governor's trowel with his sword—slaying the masons, and carrying away the bottle with the newspapers—placed there for the enlightenment of future archaeologists, returned to his quarters, took up the mightier weapon, and wrote that the road was a military danger and must not be. Then I remember the time when the controversy arose whether the road should go by Shaukiwan or by Kennedy Town. The Government, who as we know subscribed half the funds, were rather inclined to favour the Shaukiwan Road which would have given a driving road for about 20 miles. But the

Committee were very firm and absolutely declined to have that road from Shaukiwan. Of course I need hardly tell you that with their pertinacity they succeeded in dominating the Government on that point. The argument on the one side was that you would have a driving road round the island. On the other side it was said you would have a road round Mount Davis on which the Chinese would come out in the afternoons and would be seen there in crowds enjoying the balmy southwestern breezes laden with the odours of Cheung Chow. (Laughter.) The real secret of the Committee's determination was never openly stated. I do not know how it got about. It may have been that one of the Committee was, like Cassius, loose of soul, and in his sleep did mutter his affairs. (Laughter.) The real secret I believe was that the Committee said the Government have undertaken to finish this road and it will take up all the money we have to make this small bit round Mount Davis, and if we do not spend it on that difficult piece of road we will never see it done. Now we have a very good 16 feet road there at present. So far as we can see it appears to be principally for the purpose of affording an opportunity to the Dairy Farm of sending their milk by the higher and lower levels. It has been completed in part at such a level as would probably shorten the wind of any assailant who attempted to take the island that side and leave him an easy victim of the Volunteers or other defenders of that section. (Laughter.) It is true that with the persevering determination that characterises everything in Hongkong, portions of the road after the heavy rains attempted bodily to convey themselves to the sea level, but they were coaxed back into position by Messrs. Denison and Rain, and now it is a good road and I hope it will be availed of by a large number of people and ultimately will be completed round the island, when I hope it will satisfy all the conditions that were intended. And now, Sir Paul Chafer, and ladies and gentlemen, as regards the Hospital: this is a work, I think, against which no caviller could say one word, and I look forward with great pleasure to the unique opportunity of turning the key in the entrance-door of a building 1,000 feet above the foundation stone which was laid, I believe, originally near the Government Civil Hospital. (Laughter.) This building with its 41 beds, and situated as it is above the vitiated atmosphere of the crowded city, must be, I am sure, a blessing in the future to the poor people who will be accommodated here. It is a fitting memorial to our late beloved Queen, and I am sure we will all join in wishing it God-speed. I have great pleasure in declaring that it is well and duly opened. (Applause)

His Excellency then turned the key in the lock and the company entered the Hospital and inspected it.

Refreshments were afterwards served.

THE NEW LAW COURTS.

FOUNDATION-STONE LAID BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

On Thursday afternoon the foundation-stone of the new Law Courts was laid by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., in the presence of a brilliant gathering of Hongkong residents. The ceremony took place at half-past four o'clock, and long before that hour had arrived a large crowd of spectators had assembled on the scene. All the scaffolding on the site was decked with bunting. Stands were provided for the ladies, of whom many attended, and for the members of the Bench and the Bar. The foundation-stone was suspended by a crane, ready to be lowered into position. At the hour fixed for the ceremony H. E. the Governor and Lady Blake, with Sir John Keane, A.D.C., arrived in the enclosure and were met by the Chief Justice, Sir William Goodman (who wore his official robes), and the Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works, who escorted His Excellency to the stand erected for the purposes of the ceremony proper. Among others present were Lady Goodman; Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General; His Honour A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, Mr. A. Seth, Registrar; Mr. J. W. Jones, Deputy

Registrar; Mr. M. W. Slade, Mr. H. H. Gompertz, Messrs. H. W. Looker, F. B. L. Bowley, J. Hastings, P. W. Goldring, E. J. Grist, C. E. H. Beavis, G. C. C. Master, V. Deacon, E. A. Bonner, J. S. Harston, O. D. Thomson, J. Hays, M. J. D. Stephens, S. W. Tso and F. X. d'Almada e Castro; Hon. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary; Sir Paul Chafer, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, P.C.M.O.; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai; Messrs. J. Dyer Ball, H. P. Tooker, B. A. Hale, P. H. Jones, B. B. Parker, E. A. Hewett, H. G. Fisher, Gershom Stewart, L. A. M. Johnston, M. S. Northcote, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Rev. T. Wright, Messrs. P. P. J. Wodehouse, A. Shelton Hooper, G. A. Woodcock, Fung Wa Chun, Lau Chu Pak, Dr. W. W. Pearse, and Dr. B. T. T. Barnett. A body of police under Captain Lyons and Chief Inspector Baker was present and preserved excellent order.

His Excellency and party having taken their places on the platform at the foundation-stone.

Hon. W. CHATHAM said—Your Excellency ladies and gentlemen,—We are met together to-day to inaugurate the construction of the new Law Courts. The Colony, though still somewhat young, has already outgrown the accommodation afforded by the present Courts, which were built in 1848, and the question of erecting a new building has, for a considerable time past, exercised the minds of the Government and the public. The first real move in the matter was made in 1896, when the then Director of Public Works, Mr. Cooper, submitted a scheme for constructing new Law Courts on a site immediately to the North of the one we are now standing on. The Courts formed only a part of the scheme, which contemplated the erection on this site of public offices to accommodate several other departments, including the Post Office. Mr. Cooper's proposal was referred by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Chamberlain) to the eminent English architects, Messrs. Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, and, upon their recommendation, which was based upon the inadequate area of the site to the North of this, it was decided to erect the Courts here. The other departments, to which I have referred, will be provided for on a site adjoining Blake Pier, where they will be more conveniently situated, from a public point of view. The area to the North of this will therefore remain un-built upon, and an almost unrivalled site for the Courts, having regard to the open spaces which will adjoin them on three sides, will thus be created. Lack of funds has been responsible to some extent for the delay which has occurred in undertaking the work, and I may here mention that some 11 years ago an agitation was got up to arrest the progress of the reclamation works, by the carrying out of which the site for the Courts has been rendered available. As the cost of the works will amount to about \$750,000, it has not been an easy matter to provide for it among the numerous urgent demands for public works caused by the rapid development of the Colony. Other factors in causing delay have been the difficulties arising out of the contract for the foundations, the necessity of removing the Praya Reclamation Office in order to clear the site, and subsequently of piling the area which it had occupied and the difficulty of obtaining a tender to construct the superstructure for a reasonable sum. Now that these have been overcome, there is every prospect of the work progressing satisfactorily, though, on account of the large quantity of dressed granite to be employed,—over 150,000 cubic feet,—progress must necessarily be slower than if brick and plaster were used as in the case of most of the buildings around us. The building when completed will be in every way worthy of the Colony and of the high purpose it is designed to serve, and it may safely be predicted that, in it, that justice which plays so important a part in British rule will continue to be administered for many years to come. I would now ask you, Sir, to lay this stone, and for this purpose I have to hand you this trowel and mallet and spirit-level which are the gift of the contractor, Mr. Chan A Tong. (Applause).

The trowel was silver and the mallet black-wood silver-mounted.

His Excellency formally accepted the souvenirs, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to His Excellency Sir Henry

Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Hongkong, on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the new Law Courts, by Chan A Tong, contractor, 12th November, 1903."

Sir WILLIAM GOODMAN then said—Your Excellency very kindly asked me this morning, as Chief Justice, to make a few remarks, on this extremely interesting occasion, upon the present Supreme Court and its actual practical working. Perhaps I may be permitted, in the first instance, to express, in the name of the members of the legal profession, the satisfaction we experience in being present here to-day, and in knowing that, all obstacles having been at length overcome, Your Excellency is now about to lay the foundation-stone of a building thoroughly worthy of the position of this Colony, and of the traditions of the administration of British justice. It is most important, especially so in Oriental countries, that justice should be administered not only with firmness, impartiality and promptitude, but also with dignity, and in surroundings in consonance with Supreme Courts of His Majesty the King, wherein he administers justice, through his Judges. There have been times, quite recently, when it has been somewhat difficult for the Judges to keep up even a semblance of dignity. For certain purposes, I believe, it is convenient to be in the closest proximity to the General Post Office. It is supposed to enhance the value of the property. But in the case of the Supreme Court such immediate proximity is a serious drawback. I can, from my own experience, assure your Excellency that you have no more active and energetic Civil servants than those engaged in what I may call the carpentering branch of the Parcels Post and the machine-stamping departments of the Post office, and the Collector of Stamp Duties. (Laughter.) Last year, I recollect being entirely suppressed as a Judge. It was in Chambers; and whenever the legal gentlemen got to the most interesting point of their argument, the stamping machine would commence operations, with the regularity of a smith beating on an anvil—a smith who was certainly not a "harmonious blacksmith." (Laughter.) The machine was within 20 feet of the seats we were occupying, and we had, day after day, to select our most persuasive officer (it was mostly Mr. Seth—you know the smoothness of his tongue) to go round and beg for half an hour's cessation, as it was impossible to hear a word. (Laughter.) After much correspondence with the Government, during your Excellency's absence, that machine was removed, but I believe the Collector of Stamp Revenue has never been thoroughly happy since. (Laughter.) But as for the carpentering and the hammering at parcel post cases, these, like the poor, are "ever with us," and, at times, we have, owing to our proximity to the Queen's Road, visits from the steam-roller, which seems to consider that the granite in front of the windows of the Court House is best crushed into shape during the sittings of the Court. I believe my colleague, Mr. Justice Wise, was once very nearly committing the steam roller and its driver for contempt of Court, but I daresay there were difficulties in the way of getting it upstairs into the presence of the outraged Judge to receive the merited sentence. (Laughter.) At present the Post Office occupies about half of the ground floor of the Supreme Court. I remember on my return from leave of absence, some years ago, I found that the Post Office had expropriated me. (Laughter.) I could plead no New Territories Treaty, and they took possession of the Attorney-General's and Crown Solicitor's chambers, and remain there now. At one time I remember that the Registrar-General had rooms in the Supreme Court Room, one had to push one's way through a crowd of Chinese applicants for those numerous licenses which he has the duty of granting or withholding. I can speak only from personal recollection, of a period of some years, but that is quite long enough to impress upon me the fact that there is no heating apparatus in the Court. Once there were hot-water pipes, but no officer was deputed to look after them, and one of the former Chief Justices preferred catching cold to listening to the weird blood-curdling noises those pipes produced and running the risk of

an explosion. The jurymen who sit in the February Sessions always appear to me extremely unhappy, and I have often sympathised with them. (Laughter.) But I have said enough about the present Courthouse as a building. If I have said too much your Excellency knows how delightful it is to ventilate long-suppressed grievances, and will in your goodness excuse me. Turning to the work of the Court it may be of public interest to give some idea of what goes on within its walls. I believe the Chinese are not at all inclined to embark in litigation in their own country. But they seem quite willing to do so in Hongkong. Speaking of the last ten months, namely, from 1st January, 1903, to 31st October, 1903, no less than 1,476 civil actions have been brought, of which no less than 1,200 have been disposed of. The amount in dispute in these actions was roughly about \$900,000. In addition to all this there have in the same period been eight Admiralty cases and 26 Bankruptcy petitions and an immense number of applications for probate and administration. I find that on an average for the last five years the value of the property for which probate or administration has been granted has been nearer \$4,000,000 than \$3,000,000 per annum. I am afraid some of the Chinese wills are made by the family after the supposed testator's death (laughter), as an amicable arrangement to prevent having to take out administration and find securities for the necessary bond. Indeed I had a very funny so-called will presented for probate only yesterday which begins with unusual candour by reciting that the testator is "now already dead." (Laughter.) It rather gave the scheme away, and is interesting as showing the ingenuity of some of our Chinese fellow-citizens. As regards the criminal jurisdiction 111 persons have been indicted, and 91 have been convicted, by the Supreme Court, during the last 10 months. But I must not weary you. Speaking generally, I may say that the Court is, at present, working in a satisfactory manner, with little friction or delay. Indeed, there is not a single case on my paper for trial, in which the parties are ready to proceed, which has not been disposed of. I think, therefore, I may affirm that there is no unnecessary delay in the administration of justice. I thank your Excellency for having asked me to make these remarks, and I will no longer hinder the performance of the interesting function of laying the foundation stone of this much-needed edifice. (Applause.)

A bottle containing copies of the local newspapers, coins of the Colony, and other records was placed in a cavity underneath the foundation-stone, which was then lowered into its place.

HIS EXCELLENCE, having formally applied the implements of the mason to the stone, said—In the name of justice, I declare this stone to be well and truly laid.

The consummation of the ceremony was marked by a loud outburst of cheering.

HIS EXCELLENCE then said—Sir William Goodman, Mr. Chatham, ladies and gentlemen,—may I add, gentlemen of the jury (laughter)—I felicitate myself on being in a position before I leave the Colony to lay the foundation stone of its most important public building. From the statements that have been made by the Chief Justice and the Director of Public Works you will have gathered the necessity for the abandonment of the present Supreme Court, which was acquired at a time when the population of this Colony was 21,000, and the difficulties that have prevented the construction of this noble pile up to the present moment. We have heard of the difficulties of the present Supreme Court from the Chief Justice, and I sympathise with him deeply, and I think it struck me while he was speaking—that for the present, if the same difficulties arise, we should change the motto over the judgment-seat and make it "Let Justice be done if the stamp should fall." (Laughter and applause.) The Chief Justice also complained of the noise of the roller, but he has omitted to state that the roller was engaged in smoothing the way for the litigants to the Supreme Court, where the probability is that the figure there that attracted them was the Chief Justice sitting delivering his judgments, with the calmness of

irritation in knowing that every stamp meant for the Colony at least five cents or perhaps more. (Laughter.) Now I think the lesson we have learned from his observations has thrown a light upon the charity of our Chinese friends because I have known much of it, and now we hear from the Chief Justice that when an unfortunate man is at his last gasp he is nursed, cared for and at last buried, and after that his will is made. (Laughter.) Can charity do more? (Renewed laughter.) Well, from time to time I have read sarcastic strictures upon the supineness of the Government in their delay in carrying out this most necessary public building, and while I wished I had Aladdin's lamp I wondered if those who girded at us understood the time that was necessary in carrying to its conclusion a great building of this kind. First of all, immediately after the Commission, we had the plans prepared here and sent forward to England. Then they returned the plans saying that on consideration those plans were rejected, and others were referred to us, which were admirable in their way, but unfortunately ignored the fact that Hongkong had a winter as well as a summer climate, which necessitated a reconsideration. Then again, when these plans were returned, the details were obliged to be considered by the Judges, and the Bar, and the solicitors and all the people concerned, and their recommendations as to what was necessary for the proper administration had to go home again, and again be considered. When you come to remember that had to be done you will agree with me that this could not be done very rapidly, even by the aid of the telegraph, at a distance of ten thousand miles. And then, when everything was settled, came the getting out of the enormous mass of detail of the quantities, which was a work of many months. I too at one time felt the impatience of un instructed ignorance, and with fiery zeal I determined to go down and examine for myself the work and push forward what I thought the work of the laggard draughtsman. I left the office with a chastened spirit (laughter) and with the consciousness that the enormous mass of detail in getting out the quantities was being got through with as much speed as was consistent with care. And now the time has come when the difficulties are overcome and the foundation-stone is at last ready for the superstructure. At first—I think it was mentioned it was to have been placed upon the northern portion of this vacant ground. I am glad that was rejected, because my view is that the northern portion should never be built upon, but that it should remain as a public garden to be adorned by the statues of their Majesties the King and Queen, and to become in time a fitting entrance to the city when the Statue Wharf is replaced by a new pier of the same description as Blake Pier. (Applause.) As the Director of Public Works has informed us, the progress of Hongkong in commerce and prosperity during the last ten or eleven years has been phenomenal. But, gentlemen, when drowsy, disjointed China shall have been aroused by the bustle of great railways carrying her merchandise, and the whirr of the engines bringing to the surface her buried treasure and giving employment to millions of her industrious people who are now liable to periodical famines or driven to robber bands, then the reciprocal trade of East and West will be to now as an ocean to a lake, and Hongkong with her unrivalled position and her arms flung wide for the unrestricted commerce of the world will see her crowded shipping spread into the deep-dredged bay of Yaumati and waiting to load or unload at the wharves of the Kowloon terminus of the great arterial railway to Hankow (applause), while the Chater of that day (laughter) will cast his eye over the hills and valleys of the Kowloon Peninsula, will make the crooked straight, and the rough places plain, and build a city that will make the Sanitary Board laugh with glee (laughter), while her thousands of prosperous workers will gaze with admiration in the quiet night on the twinkling lights of the reconstructed mother city lying nestled at the foot of the guardian Peak and clinging to its sides. (Applause.) In such a city as will then arise this splendid building with its lofty dome will be a fitting and a proper temple for the

pure, impartial and incorruptible administration of justice tempered with mercy: that is the foundation of the rock upon which alone contented society may endure, and in that sacred name of Justice it has been my happiness to lay the foundation-stone this day. (Loud applause.)

This concluded the ceremony, and the company afterwards dispersed.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURTS.

When the New Victoria Law Courts are completed, Hongkong will be the proud possessor of a very handsome building. The courts will have an extensive frontage facing west, and measuring two hundred feet in length, and having fifteen bays forming a wide colonnade along the entire length. The style of the building is to be of the Grecian Ionic order. Over the centre of the front there will be a broad pediment containing the Royal arms in granite, flanked on either side with the letters "V" and "R.I." This is to be surmounted by a towering statue of "Justice," with "Mercy" and "Truth" reclining immediately below. The height of the building, from the ground to the top of the immense dome, will be 148 feet, the dome itself being nearly fifty feet high. There are to be three entrances to the Courts in front, two being public entrances, and one for prisoners and their custodians alone. The latter leads only to the docks and waiting cells. The former enter upon broad corridors, having the law offices and offices of the court officials on either side, and two broad flights of stairs leading to the courts on the floor above. There will be separate entrances on the west side for the Judges, Attorney-General, and Crown Solicitor.

On the first floor are to be situated two Courts, the larger of the two being 73 feet by 40 ft and 48 ft. high. On this floor are also witnesses' rooms, consulting rooms, and rooms for solicitors and the grand jury, as well as judges' retiring rooms, and an immense library, and barristers' chambers. On the second floor will be situated the offices of the Attorney-General and Crown Solicitor, and storage and record-rooms. The large court being immediately below the dome will be well lighted, and being also in the centre of the building is expected to be very quiet. There will be a lift, worked by electricity, for the convenience of the judges and court officials requiring to visit the second floor. Below are to be situated the furnaces, boilers, etc., for heating the building, furnishing light, and the motive power for the lift. The dome will be supported by massive granite pillars, and granite will play a large part in the general construction of the building. Red bricks will be the material used for the interior, while the main portions of the exterior will be raised in fine white granite, which is being specially selected for the new edifice, while the floors will be of concrete and steel, the whole being fire-proof, and every possible means will be adopted against the depredations of white ants. The floors of the upper floors will be of hard wood duly protected, except in the lavatories, where they will be of glazed tiles. Light will be furnished by means of electric glow lamps.

The New Law Courts when completed will certainly be the finest edifice in the colony, and a monument of architecture.

The construction of these Courts is being carried out under the supervision of Mr. H. G. Fisher, A.R.I.B.A., of the Public Works Department, and the architects who designed the building are Messrs. Aston Webb, R. A., and E. Ingress Bell, F.R.I.B.A., of 19 Queen Anne's Gate, London.

The expected and much-discussed Russian weekly paper in English is to be started within the next month or two at Port Arthur by Colonel Artemieff, Editor and proprietor of the *Novi Krai*—a fact which hardly promises much for its policy. Its object will be to advocate an alliance between Russia and England, and it will contain a series of articles by Mr. Levitoff, which will run for some two-and-a-half years, on the historical relations between Russia and England. It is said that an English journalist has been engaged as adviser.

SHOOTING ACCIDENT IN NEW TERRITORY.

P.W.D. OVERSEER SHOT DEAD

We regret to have to record a most distressing fatal accident which occurred in the New Territory on the 8th inst. A party of Europeans set out on a shooting expedition on the other side, and on Sunday it appears were in the neighbourhood of Shatzen stalking some deer that were making themselves heard. The party consisted of Sergeant J. Lee and Sergeant Hill of the Hongkong Police; Mr. W. McGregor of the Public Works Department, who is in charge of the new waterworks in Kowloon; and a fourth European.

In the course of their pursuit of the deer Sergeant Lee was manipulating the chamber of his rifle when the weapon went off and the bullet struck Mr. McGregor in the back, on the spine, killing him instantaneously. On Monday afternoon the body of the unfortunate man was brought to Hongkong by the police launch and placed in the mortuary chamber to await the inquest.

Mr. McGregor had not had leave for a considerable period, and he had looked forward to the King's birthday to get an outing in the New Territory. Much sympathy is felt for Sergeant Lee in the painful position in which he finds himself through inadvertence. He was a great friend of Mr. McGregor, and when on leave lost no opportunity of visiting him at the waterworks.

At the Happy Valley on the 10th inst. the funeral took place of Mr. W. McGregor, overseer in the Public Works Department, whose sad death as the result of a shooting accident in the New Territory has been already reported. A large number of friends of the deceased followed his remains to the grave and the coffin was carried from the hearse into the cemetery by six of his colleagues on the P.W.D. staff, namely Messrs. J. Coyle, F. Dougherty, I. A. Wheal, G. W. Kynoch, J. H. Barrington, and Cole. There were present the Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works, Mr. P. H. Jones, Assistant D.P.W.; Chief Inspector H. G. Baker, Inspector W. L. Ford and W. G. Warnock, Sergeant Lee, Sergeant Hill, Sergeant Clark and many other members of the Police Force; Inspector A. Lawrence of the Naval Yard Police; Mr. W. M. Deas of the Kowloon Docks and many Masonic brethren. Rev. C. H. Hickling of the Union Church conducted the funeral service, and delivered a most impressive address. After the last honours had been paid to the dead, Rev. Mr. Hickling shook hands with Sergeant Lee and expressed every sympathy with him in his sorrow for unwittingly being the cause of his friend's death. The grave was covered with wreaths.

HONGKONG LETTERS VIA THE SIBERIAN ROUTE.

On enquiry yesterday morning at the Post Office, we were courteously furnished with the following information regarding the sending of Hongkong letters via the Siberian route.

The Hongkong Post Office, after hearing that the British Postal authorities had agreed to the Siberian Railway's terms for sending mails to and from the East by the overland route, wired to ask if letters could be sent with penny (2 cents) postage and received an affirmative reply. Evidently, therefore, letters can be sent from England to Hongkong via Siberia with a penny stamp, and a 2d stamp, as has been reported, is not necessary.

The terms of the Siberian Railway are 15 francs per kilogram. The British Postal authorities would not agree to this rate at first but in the end gave in, accepting the offer provisionally till after the International Postal Conference at Rome next year when some more satisfactory arrangement may be arrived at.

In a kilogram, roughly, there are 100 letters at 4 cents per letter; therefore the Post Office receives \$4 per kilo, and \$4, roughly, is the equivalent of 10 francs. As it costs the Post Office 19 francs per kilogram (15 to Siberian Railway, 2 francs to Germany, and 2 francs to France), they are at a dead loss of roughly 9 francs per kilogram. Letters are sent via Brindisi for

13 francs per kilo, or, roughly, at a loss of 3 francs. Italy charges 1.70 francs. France 2 francs, and the shipping companies the remainder.

About five days are saved by sending letters via Siberia, or in other words letters take only 23 days in transit as against 28 days when sent by sea. Thirteen days of this are occupied by the railway part of the journey in Russia alone. On the mail arriving at Moscow, the bags are forwarded by the German-Paris mail-train. When saying that it takes 28 days to send a letter by the sea route, it is meant that 28 days is the usual time—the last P. & O. mail took roughly 28 days—but as a matter of fact it is claimed that it can be done in 26 days. No doubt it can, but it never is; often, indeed, the mail takes 29 days. A gentleman in the Russo-Chinese Bank has received a letter from Paris via Siberia in 23 days. The Russian railway authorities are taking measures to accelerate the service.

On account of the great expense of sending mail bags via Siberia, the Post Office has decided not to accept anything for that route except fully paid letters. Newspapers and samples will only be sent by sea, and letters requiring to be taxed on account of their being insufficiently stamped will also be sent only by the sea route.

Mail bags via Siberia will be close sealed and in no way tampered with by the Russian authorities.

As it will take about three days less for letters posted at Shanghai to reach England than those posted at Hongkong, that port recently three days more distant from England than Hongkong is now the reverse.

Referring to the above, a correspondent sends us the following interesting remarks on this subject. He says when the French Post Office made the agreement with the Siberian Railway for the carriage of mails his head office tested the new route, with the result that he received here the French and German Mails from Paris in 29 days, and the English Mail in 33 days. Mail matter posted at the same time in England reached him on Saturday last via the Canal, and yesterday morning via the German mail steamer *Preussen* from Shanghai. Our correspondent therefore concludes that unless they start a direct steamer from Dalmatia to Hongkong the Canal route is the best for mail service with this colony.

THE POVERTY OF HONGKONG'S MUSEUM.

A *Daily Press* representative on the 7th inst. interviewed Mr. H. Wilfrid Walker, a naturalist of many years' experience, now on a short visit to Hongkong. In the course of his remarks Mr. Walker mentioned having visited the Hongkong museum, and expressed his surprise at the poor collection therein displayed.

To begin with, the birds and lepidoptera are in a very dilapidated condition; and many of the birds have been shockingly stuffed. But the worst fault of all is the misnaming of the birds. For instance, a bird of Paradise, *Paradisea Papuana*, is labelled *Paradisea Rubra*, the red bird of Paradise; and another still more glaring mistake is a bee-eater, *Merops Ornatus*, labelled "the blue-tailed humming bird," *Trochilus Cyanurus*, and its habitat said to be Hongkong. When almost everyone knows that the humming birds are peculiar to North and South America, and the West Indies. The residents of Hongkong would be very surprised if they heard that humming birds were found on the Island.

When asked whether these were the only mistakes, Mr. Walker replied:

"No; there are plenty of others, but these two are the most ridiculous."

"What do you think of the animals?"

"They are most unnatural, being stuffed altogether out of proportion, and their attitudes are most ludicrous. When I was looking around the museum, a Dutch gentleman came up to me and commented on the way the animals were stuffed, saying they were perfectly outrageous. He also expressed surprise at the smallness of the museum for a place like Hongkong."

"On the whole, what do you think of the Museum?"

"Wretched! It reminds me of a second-hand taxidermist's shop. Considering how favourably Hongkong is situated with regard to gathering curios and natural-history specimens from Japan, China and the East Indies I expected a better display. I should think that the rich Chinese, especially, would present valuable curios to the Museum if it were set on a better footing and if larger and more suitable premises were secured. As it is now, it is an eyesore and a disgrace to the Colony."

"Did you visit the library?"

"Yes; and when I asked for the *London Weekly Times* they had only two out of date copies, one for a week in May and the other for a week in June."

"I suppose you have visited the Botanical Gardens?"

"I have, and was very pleased with them, but I could not help noticing that some of the plants were also misnamed, especially the palms. To cite one case, a sabal was named *Pritchardia Pacifica*. I was particularly taken with some of the walks above the Botanical Gardens, the mixture of palms, cycads, dracænas, tree-ferns, marantas, and trees covered with climbing pothos and philodendrons made me almost imagine that I was in a tropical forest again, and yet I am told that tourists and globe-trotters hardly ever see this beautiful spot."

Mr. Walker has collected in many countries. He has just finished five months in Japan, and is on his way to the Philippines and Borneo.

WANCHAI INDUSTRIES.

Very little about Wanchai, except perhaps an account of the periodical shareholders' meeting of Messrs. Geo. Fenwick & Co., ever sees print, though the area lying between that establishment and the Bowrington Canal is one of the busiest spots in Hongkong. True, certainly, the employers in that vicinity are mostly Chinese who wax rich in their own way and little is known about them. There is besides, the poorer class who set a wonderful example of thrift and industry. Passing Messrs. Fenwick's shear-legs on the Praya, one comes to Tung Tai Tseung Kee Co.'s works doing a good business in iron founding, and shipbuilding also, in a small way; alongside the Praya, opposite are two small steamboats in course of construction. Further on, around about the Public Works earthenware yard, are quantities of scrap iron all being worked upon and turned to good account. On the beach at the back, a Chinaman may be seen cutting through a huge log—he has been at it all day and there are yet a few feet to finish. Below him, where sampans, painters are fastened to big stones or pieces of wood pegged into the sand, are a quantity of sticks out to dry. Mixed with lumps sifted from ash-heaps they make very good fuel. Here and there is an old scow, bottom up for caulking purposes, and near by is Ah King's slipway. Ah King started life as a boatman being employed to look after a few boats at the Victoria Recreation Club. Some time after, having found his line of business profitable, he came over to Wanchai and started on his own. Now Ah King looks after some 15 boats belonging to the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club, to say nothing of two score or so others of every description. Small launches are also entrusted to him, and one of his three slipways can accommodate an 8-foot launch. The other two are for small cutters. He can unfold some very interesting stories about the difficulty he experiences in getting the numerous boats to Quarry Bay for shelter before typhoons. Along Praya East are a large number of godowns. Coolies with baskets of coal attached to their bamboo poles are incessantly walking in procession to and from the cargo junks alongside; an appearance of activity prevails everywhere. Included in the list of coal godowns in this not too extensive area are those of Chan Hing Ting, Chow Dart Tong, Tsang Foo & Co., Yuen Kee, the East Asiatic Trading Co., Midzushima & Co., the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, N. Mody & Co., and Wing Kee. The United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, and Mr. Tang Lap Ting (the Wanchai Godowns covering a large area) have also warehouses

there. Tong Sing's engineering and boiler-making premises are in the locality. On the banks of the Bowrington Canal are the new foundry and asbestos yard, the Hongkong timber yard and Fook Chong's engineering, boiler-making, brass and iron-founding, and shipbuilding establishment. On Praya East, also, are several Chinese boat-builders' shops.

BCWLING CLUB SMOKING CONCERT.

The smoking concert given by the Bowling Club on Saturday night was one of the most successful functions of the kind ever held in Hongkong. The chair was taken about 9 p.m. by Mr. Hart Buck, and entertainment lasted well up to midnight. The hall of the club was converted for the occasion into a concert room and was effectively decorated with flags, those behind the platform being the Union Jack in the centre, and the United States and Japanese flanking it. The hall was well filled, but not uncomfortably crowded, by the members of the Club and their guests.

The band of the Sherwood Foresters, who supplied the instrumental part of the programme, started the proceedings with a selection, after which Mr. W. B. Haugwont sang Faure's "Palm Leaves," which was well received. Mr. H. M. Robbins, U. S. Vice-Consul, and formerly leader of the Wisconsin University Glee Club, followed with "The Sheltering Palm," in a manner which made his hearers demand an encore. Mr. W. Domnick's playing of Raff's Cavatina on the violin was excellent, and the same is true of his rendering of the pretty entr'acte gavotte from *Mignon*, which he gave in response to a recall. Needless to say Mr. H. A. Tozer was heartily welcomed when he stepped on the platform to sing "He's going there every night," but his encore song "When the Gentle Breezes blow" took the audience by storm, and deservedly so, for the singer's manner was just what was required. He laid no undue stress on the points, as some comic singers are wont to do, and thereby his song gained immeasurably. Mr. C. H. Grace's "Song of the Bow" (Florence Aylward) was given with all the art that this charming baritone knows how to use in his singing, and "Heroes and Gentlemen" was equally pleasing. Mr. W. G. Worcester closed the first half of the programme with two recitations, both good, but the second more especially so. His voice, however, was hardly strong enough to carry all over the hall. After a pause, the Sherwood Foresters performed a selection from *The Country Girl*, for which they well deserved the applause given them, as they were in fine form. Mr. R. H. Scheeloch, who was at one time leader of the Glee Club at Yale University, then sang "Gipsy John" and followed it with "My Love is like the Sea." He has one of the most captivating voices we have heard in Hongkong, and we shall hope to hear him again soon. Next Mr. Worcester appeared with "For the little Baby," in which he made a genuine hit, and he had to come back and sing the last verse again. Mr. Somerville accompanied him as the nurse who held the baby, and was really wonderfully disguised; Nurse's sudden assault upon the amiable accompanist Mr. George Grimes was the cause of much amusement. Mr. G. P. Lammert sang Godard's "Angels guard thee," with a violin obligato capitally performed by Mr. F. C. Barlow. Mr. Lammert has been in better voice, but his singing was nevertheless appreciated, and he obliged with "I'll sing thee Songs of Araby" as an encore. Mr. P. W. Goldring was not up to his usual high standard in "Sally in our Alley," and might better have sung earlier, as he had only arrived back in the Colony early on Saturday and was obviously tired out. Davidson being unable to turn up, the songs concluded with Mr. H. A. Tozer's "Oh! I've lost it," a great success in every way, and "She only had her dollar in her purse," which was even better. There is no equally effective comedian singer in the Colony, and the audience recognised the fact. "God save the King" would have terminated the musical part of the proceedings, but in answer to strong requests Mr. Scheeloch consented to sing "Violets," giving for an encore the last verse in German. This finished what was a

highly successful concert, as we have already intimated. The duties of accompanist were divided between Messrs. G. Grimes, G. P. Lammert, and H. F. Campbell, all of whom won the best thanks of their hearers and of the singers.

We must not omit to mention that in the interval Mr. Hart Buck presented the Club billiard prizes to the winners in the late tournament as follows:—First prize and a cue for the best break (63) to Mr. J. Roger; 2nd prize, Mr. L. Knox; 3rd prize, Mr. F. O. Ranney.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th November.

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.

The crimes for which Lo On, the usher of the Namhoi yamen, was executed, are variously stated, and not one account is certain. Some say that he had a hand in the murder of Li Pa To, the confidential spy of Li Ka Cheuk, late magistrate of Yumchow, who is now in prison in the Punyu gaol; others say that he amassed a big fortune by levying blackmail on flower boats and houses of ill-fame. The gentry got up a number of charges against him and had him arrested and put in prison without trial. In fact, the whole matter, from beginning to end, has been a mystery. It is said that he bought the post of usher in the Namhoi magistracy for ten thousand dollars for three years, and during the time when Pui King Fuk was magistrate, he, the chief porter Chik Wa Hin, and others together made big squeezes over a hundred thousand dollars in a year. Chik Wa Hin ran away. Because Lo On had money the officials have put an end to his life and taken possession of his property. When he was in the Namhoi gaol he lived in luxury; his wife and concubines were permitted to stay with him, his friends called upon and dined with him daily. When in prison, too, his income was the same as usual, his share of "squeeze" being regularly paid to him. However, without any previous warning, while he was taking a meal with his friends, a peremptory order came from a high source, and he was bundled out, tied hand and foot, carried in a basket by two coolies to the execution ground, and beheaded, his family paying one thousand dollars to get back his head for interment.

A MAGISTRATE SPARED.

With reference to the late magistrate Wong Sung, of Namhoi, who was degraded on account of the guards and underlings of his yamen squeezing the convicts (and in whose stead a certain Yew, a confidential secretary of the Viceroy Shum, is acting magistrate), an enquiry has been instituted, and after investigation in the accountants' office defalcations have been discovered to the amount of over thirty thousand taels. Of course the magistrate was to blame for it, but upon the intercession of the Provincial Governor with the Viceroy, and in consideration of the fact that Wong has lost a good deal of money by supplying most of the requisites for the use of the official yamen, and that he had no opportunity to repay himself by collecting the taxes upon fields and lands at the end of the year, it has been resolved that he shall bear half the amount of the defalcations, and the new magistrate the other half.

BUT ANOTHER NOT.

With reference to Li Ka Cheuk, late magistrate of Yumchow, it is stated that the Viceroy and the Provincial Governor have jointly sent up a memorial to Peking charging him with various crimes, especially that of conniving at his soldiers robbing and killing people. It is surmised that he cannot escape death by beheading.

There is a certain class of public servants known as *mun-seung* or chief porters. Although their position is humble, yet by falsely assuming the authority of officials they can make more money by squeeze than most of the officials do. It is this class of people that the Viceroy hates most, and he has instituted a crusade against them, as in the case of Chik Wa Hin, *mun-seung* of the Namhoi magistrate, who has bolted either to Hongkong or Macao. In the present instance there is another *mun-seung* in similar trouble belonging to the magistracy of the Lungmun

district, Kwangtung. The Viceroy, very angry, has given orders to the magistrate to have him arrested and brought to Canton to be punished.

Report says that Prefect Shum Chuin E, of Kwangchow, has applied for three months' leave to enable him to rest from his multifarious duties, and that in his stead a certain Chan Mong Chang will act for the time being. It is not certain if the Viceroy and the Provincial Governor will allow this. The Viceroy likes Prefect Shum well, and as His Excellency is still sick it is doubtful if he could obtain leave.

BRIGANDS.

In Pingling, Heungshan district, the brigands are very violent, going into the villages even in broad daylight to rob and carry away people for ransom. About two weeks ago Admiral Ho Cheung Ching sent a contingent of one thousand soldiers to fight them. The number of brigands was far inferior to that of the soldiers, but they were better armed, and occupied strong positions, and after a whole day's fighting the soldiers were defeated. At about dark a few mandarin cruisers arrived just in time to fire a few shots, which dispersed the brigands. From forty to fifty soldiers are reported killed.

KWANGSI.

The Viceroy has ordered Taotai Wong Tit Shan to enlist four thousand more soldiers to join those in Canton under the command of Admiral Lao Kwong-choi and to go to Kwangsi to fight the rebels.

TELEPHONES.

A telephone company has been established in Canton to connect all the official yamens and mercantile establishments, at a cost of forty-eight dollars a year for each house.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 10th November.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

The anniversary of His Majesty King Edward VII's birthday was favoured with gloriously fine weather. The steamers *Taksang*, *Canton*, *Taishan*, *Jelunga*, *Hunan*, and *Hailoong*, which were in port, dressed ship gaily and on one or two of them receptions were held. The Bangkok liners *Machew* and *Petchaburi*, belonging to the Norddeutscher Lloyd, were also among the shipping in harbour, but their decorations were conspicuous by their absence. Comments were freely passed here anent the above incident. In the afternoon various sports, which provoked a great deal of fun, were held in the Consular grounds at Kackohioh. The ever-genial host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Wilis, were untiring in their energies, and their labours were amply rewarded by the success of the sports in general and of the garden party in particular. The following were the results of the different events:—

I. Whistling Competition. There were twenty competitors, ten ladies and ten gentlemen, and the contest resulted in Mrs. Forbes and Mr. Young carrying off the prizes.

II. Walking Match, 520 yards.—Eight entered for this, which ended in an easy victory for Mr. Lyons.

III. Egg-and-spoon Race.—Seven ladies took part in this, and Mrs. Haesloop secured first place.

IV. Animal Race.—There were eleven competitors, with a varied representation of the animal kingdom. Among the latter were dogs, a monkey, geese, fowls, a calf, a goat, and pigs. This was the most hilarious item on the programme, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone present. Mr. Forbes, with his pointer dog, was awarded the prize.

V. 130 Yards Flat Race.—In this, the final event, there were eight contestants. Mr. Lyons came in first, closely followed by Mr. Carlson.

The prizes, consisting of different articles of local make, were subsequently distributed by Mrs. Willis, amidst great applause. The health of King Edward VII., proposed by Mr. Willis, was then drunk most enthusiastically, and shortly afterwards "God save the King" was sung by the entire assembly. The greatly-respected taipan of Bradley & Co., Mr. Richardson, senior, in a neat little speech proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Willis, which was heartily drunk. The pleasant function finished with three cheers and a tiger for the ladies.

FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 4th November.

IMPERIAL FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

It is said that an ultimatum has been issued to Mr. C. Doyère to quit the Arsenal on or before the 19th inst., his reply being defiant and obstructive. His connection with the Imperial Arsenal ceased officially on the 6th ult. Taotai Wei Han has now absolute control with Mr. A. Bertrand as his Engineer-in-chief. Looking at Mr. Doyère's methods from the best point of view possible, he appears to have run the Imperial Arsenal for anyone's advantage rather than the Chinese—who, it is maintained, must lose money in continuing and confirming Mr. Doyère's contracts.

Mr. Wei Han, the new Director, is himself an engineer. He is a Taotai accredited to the Shansi province, and joined the Arsenal as representative of the Chinese authorities about 3 months ago. He has however spent some 15 years in the service of the Arsenal, only leaving it about 3 years ago to help in the administration of the Lu Han Railway Co. at Hankow. Mr. Wei Han is an excellent French scholar, and speaks and writes English well, whereas most of the French gentlemen attached to the Arsenal are not conversant with the English language. In fact, quite recently an English man, the only one now on the staff, was engaged presumably because the presence of an engineer who was conversant with English was felt to be desirable, Mr. Doyère being practically the only member of the European staff who was proficient in this respect.

MAILS.

Between the last arrival of the *Anping Maru* on 26th ult. and the arrival of the *Haitan* on the 3rd we have been quite without any mail communications south of the Port.

SPORT.

At the Gun Club on Monday last the 10-bird shoot ended in a final tie between Mr. J. C. Oswald and Mr. G. Siemssen, Mr. Oswald eventually winning. The prize was a very handsome pair of sleeve links presented by Mrs. Drew, wife of the Customs Commissioner. Cold drizzling rain is putting an effective damper on the Tennis Handicap, Gentlemen's Singles.

DEPARTURES OF OLD RESIDENTS.

Mr. and Mrs. Westall, two of the oldest and most respected residents in the Port, are leaving for good by P. & O. s.s. *Shanghai* on Monday next. The Foochow A.D.C. arranged a very successful concert in the Reading Room of the Club on Tuesday last in their honour, as Mr. Westall has been the leading light of the Society for many years. This opportunity was taken to present him with a handsome testimonial, subscribed for by all residents in the form of a silver salver with jug and set of liqueur cups. Mr. Westall, in addition to identifying himself with every line of life in the Port, has for some 12 years acted as Honorary Editor of our local paper where sit weekly issue was concerned.

JAPAN.

Tokyo, 26th October.

Another conference of the five Elder Statesmen and four Cabinet Ministers was held yesterday in the Premier's official residence and lasted from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with only a short interval for lunch. I do not claim to know everything that passed in this all-day conference, but have every reason to believe that the general state of affairs is unchanged, and that the situation cannot be said to have been ameliorated. Marquis Ito, G.C.B., who had been staying in his villa at Oiso, near Hakone, came up to the capital on Thursday afternoon, the 22nd inst., and on that evening General Count Katsura, Premier, called on the Marquis and they had a long talk on the situation. According to what is stated in some well-informed Japanese circles, Marquis Ito had proffered some overtures and they constituted a subject of discussion on Saturday. But I am disinclined to believe that the Marquis suggested concessions to preserve peace by all means.

A POINT AT ISSUE.

A certain Tokyo paper lately alleged that the recent deadlock in the Russo-Japanese negotiations is exclusively owing to the fact that Japan has claimed the right of constructing railways between Yankow and Wiju, on the Yalu, a d between Seoul and Wiju, in addition to the lease of Chihai Bay, near Masampho, South Corea, but it is believed that the real cause of the late *contretemps* does not refer to such minor questions. The Komura-Rosen negotiations are expected to be now resumed, but whether a satisfactory *modus vivendi* can be successfully drawn up, appears to be open to doubt. I have no desire to exaggerate the gravity, but it is folly to blink the facts; and one of the facts is that Japan is fully prepared to support her claims with armed force, if necessary. Such preparations for the purpose have been going on of late rather ostentatiously, and the principal steamship and railway companies are said to have been ordered to be quite ready for every emergency.

WHEN FOES BECOME FRIENDS.

It is interesting to note that the *Japan Gazette*, Yokohama, in a recent leader under the above caption, referring to the anniversary of Trafalgar, observed that it is a date that should be kept in mind, as commemorating not a fight of nation against nation, nor a race enmity, but the defeat of a personal ambition and the salvation of many nations, including France herself, from the power of a most dangerous man. There is no need for any regrets or any trace of bitter feeling to survive, for the two contestants are now friends, and their ancient quarrels are as completely buried as are those of North and South in the United States. This instructive article attracted the attention of the *Kokumin*, which, referring to the *Gazette's* remark, said that it is an excellent exposition of truth, applicable to the present diplomatic relation of Japan to China and similar to an Oriental proverb, "After rainstorms land settles the better."

OMINOUS SIGNS.

In view of the warlike rumours, London has already raised the rate of marine insurance of East-bound cargoes to 3.74 per 1,000 and the Tokyo Marine Insurance Co. is also now accepting risks at the rate 3.75 per 1,000 to 5 per 1,000. The life insurance companies are also aroused and endeavouring to arrive at a joint plan in dealing with naval and military men. Japanese women and children are continually evacuating Manchuria and Siberia.

A COMPARISON OF FORCES

Taking comparison of Japanese and Russian naval forces in these waters, it will be seen how usefully Russia employs time. In January last, the aggregate tonnage of the Russian Pacific Squadron stood at some 87,000 tons, the fleet including the *Peresvet*, *Petropavlovsk*, *Gilyak*, *Poltava*, *Sevastopol*, *Rossia*, *Gromoboi*, and *Rurik*, with other smaller vessels. But in March last, the tonnage went up to 93,000 tons thanks to the arrival of the *Ashold* from the Baltic. In May, the *Diana*, *Pallada*, *Novik*, and *Retvian* came; in June, the *Bogatyr* and *Boyarin*; in July the *Pobieda*. Thus the Russian naval strength includes 17 battleships and cruisers, and is now estimated at about 170,000 tons, and still inferior in amount to the Japanese (taking only those ships above the *Takachiro* type) by some 25,000 tons. The *Tsarevitch* and *Boyan*, however, arrived at Port Said about two weeks ago en route to the Far East, and the *Oslavia* was also coming when she was stranded off the Grecian coast. By the arrival of these three ships the Muscovite naval forces will stand at 178,000 tons exceeding the Japanese navy by some 7,000. Moreover, if the *Alexander III* and *Aurora* duly reach here in January next, as reported, the Russian figures go up to 199,000 tons, and, numerically, outclass the Japanese total by 28,000 tons. But it may be open to question whether the coaling and docking facilities available to Russia in the Extreme East favour the continuous operations of such an immense fleet in these waters. By the way, it may be noted that Vice-Admiral Togo has been lately appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Standing Squadron vice Admiral Hidaka, who has been transferred to the command of the Maizura naval station. Admiral Togo's appointment has attracted special attention among the

public, Japanese and foreign, here on the ground that the Admiral (then Captain), while in command of the cruiser *Naniwa*, fired the first shot in the Japan-China war, sinking the transport *Kowshing*.

RUSSIA IN YONG-AMPHO.

Disquieting news continues to come from North Corea. Mr. M. Hagiwara, First Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Seoul, who has been dispatched to the Yalu valley to inquire into the current state of affairs, arrived by a steamer a of the estuary the river on the 22nd inst., and attempted to land at Yong-ampho, but was illegally prevented by the Russians. The party was thus compelled to go up the river further and managed to get ashore at Wiju. A Press representative who accompanied the party reports that he saw two Russian transports, each of over 2,000 tons, mooring at the mouth of the Yalu, having arrived at Port Arthur. Five Japanese gendarmes specially dispatched from Seoul have lately arrived at Wiju and been welcomed by the Japanese residents there. A later telegraphic message also says that Colonel Ducat, British military attaché, has ascertained that the Russian "signal station" at Yong-ampho is a real fort after all, the denials being all false. Preparations are being made for the mounting of five or six guns, but there is no other military measure being taken so far as is known. Owing also to wild rumours now prevailing among the Coreans, the transactions between the Japanese and Coreans in the Peninsula are virtually at a deadlock.

JAPAN AND MEXICO.

The Mexican Government, which has recently enacted strict quarantine regulations against Chinese emigrants, has now notified the application thereof to Japan also, and that ships from Japan and China are allowed to call at Mazatlan alone. Mr. T. Sugimura, Japanese Minister Plenipotentiary there, is protesting on the basis of the commercial treaty between the two countries. The *Japan Times* editorially dealing with this step on the part of the Mexican Government, says that it will be the result of the pressure brought to bear upon it by the men, mostly capitalists and manufacturers, interested in the introduction of Chinese labour and in discriminating against the Japanese. The Mexican Government exposes itself to the serious charge of infringing the most favoured nation clause in the Japanese treaty with that country.

Tokyo, 26th October.

P.S.—Since the above was written I learn on high authority that Japan has now adopted a very firm attitude, and a new development of the situation has occurred. The negotiations continue, but in official circles even it is now confidentially admitted that an appeal to the *ultima ratio* is almost inevitable.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 10th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

PARTY WALL DISPUTE.

Won U Kai, owner of 71, Jervois Street, sued Wong Choi Lam, owner of 69, Jervois Street, for \$838.2, being half the cost of rebuilding the party wall between these two houses. Mr. G. K. Hall Bruton, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, for the defendant.

Mr. Hall Bruton in opening the case said that the party wall had been pulled down and rebuilt, and an agreement was entered into between the plaintiff and the defendant that each should pay one-half of the cost of the work. Plaintiff had written to defendant for payment of his share, whereupon defendant replied that he had already paid his share to the contractor.

His Lordship asked if Mr. d'Almada admitted any agreement?

Mr. d'Almada said his client averred he did not know the plaintiff, and had never seen him; He agreed with the contractor to get the work done for \$60, and it had been done and paid for.

Evidence was called.

Mr. E. M. Hazeland deposed that he was the architect in connection with the pulling down and rebuilding of 71, Jervois Street. The wall between 69 and 71, was a party wall. The total cost according to his estimate was \$1,993.44. He did not know personally of any agreement being come to between plaintiff (his client) and the defendant with regard to the payment of the cost of the work.

Wong U Kai, the plaintiff, said the contractor with whom he bargained was Fung Yung, of the Sing Kee shop. He left the agreement about the defendant paying half the cost of rebuilding the party wall to Wong Lai Shan, of Mr. Hazeland's office. When the work was completed he paid the contractor in full. Later a letter was written to the defendant asking for payment of half the cost, and an answer was received that the defendant's proportion had been paid to No. 71, Jervois Street. Witness was the owner of No. 71, Jervois Street, and neither he nor anyone on his behalf there had received this money.

Cross-examined.—The house No. 71, Jervois Street was burned down and was rebuilt by the insurance company. It was insured for \$3,000 and was rebuilt for \$5,000. After he gave instructions to Mr. Hazeland for the rebuilding of the house he met defendant and told him he had to pay half the cost of the party wall, but defendant said plaintiff would have to pay for the whole length. Later on the wall was blown down by a typhoon and defendant then agreed to pay half.

Wong Lai Shan stated that in the beginning of August, after the wall had been blown down, defendant agreed with him to pay half the cost of rebuilding.

Cross-examined.—In the work of rebuilding he recognised that he was dealing with the contracting firm of Sing Kee, but Fung Yung was the only man of the firm who attended to the work.

Mr. d'Almada in opening the case for defendant said there had been no agreement entered into between the parties. Fung Yung came to the defendant and asked to get the contract for the work of rebuilding his part of the wall. The price agreed upon was \$600. When the work had been completed his client paid the money to the two partners of the Sing Kee firm, Li Chan and Li Chan Lap.

Wong Choi Lam, the defendant, said he did not know the plaintiff and had never agreed with him to pay half the cost of rebuilding this wall. The wall of his house No. 69 was never blown down. Fung Yung was master of the Sing Kee firm; he bargained with him to do his share of the rebuilding of the wall for \$600. The money was paid into another firm on behalf of the Sing Kee firm, as the Sing Kee was closed at the end of the year. Li Chan and Li Chan Lap of the Sing Kee were present when this took place.

After hearing further evidence of a somewhat conflicting nature,

His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 11th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

ACTION FOR DAMAGES FOR MALICIOUS PROSECUTION.

This was a case in which Su Hin Sheng, broker, 200, Queen's Road, sued Cheung Wan Chow, trader, 178, Reclamation Street, Yaumati, for \$1,000 damages for malicious prosecution. M. C. E. Beavis of Messrs Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. O. D. Thomson, solicitor, for the defendant.

The statement of claim was to the following effect:—(1) on or about the 19th day of August, 1903, the defendant maliciously and without any reasonable and probable cause preferred a false charge of the larceny of promissory notes to the value of \$4,300 and goods to the value of \$2,300 against the plaintiff and caused him to be arrested thereon and on the 20th day of August, 1903, prosecuted the same

charge before Thomas Sercombe Smith, Police Magistrate, when the plaintiff was remanded to Victoria Gaol until 24th August, 1903; (2) on the 24th August the plaintiff was further remanded till the 26th, and afterwards further remanded till the 27th; and (3) on that date the charge was heard and dismissed.

Defendant, in reply to paragraph (1) of the statement of claim, denied that the charge therein mentioned was preferred maliciously and without reasonable and probable cause, or that the same was a false charge or was prosecuted before T. Sercombe Smith. Defendant admitted the statements contained in paragraphs (2) and (3).

His Lordship said that in this case pleadings had been ordered. With regard to these pleadings he understood in a case rather more complicated than usual they were of some assistance to the Court in arriving at the facts. With regard to the writ plaintiff claimed \$1,000 for malicious prosecution but it gave no information whatever. In the statement of claim there was rather less. There was no pleading at all. The pleadings said who was plaintiff and who defendant, and gave their relative positions and so forth and how the case arose. They only give him the bare fact that the case was taken up. These were not pleadings. The statement of defence was all right; it followed on the same lines as the statement of claim. Really, said his Lordship, when he ordered pleadings and got anything like these again, and should the plaintiff win his claim, he should certainly have to consider the advisability of allowing him his costs of and incidental to the pleadings.

Mr. Beavis asked leave to make a correction in the first paragraph of the statement of claim, substituting the name of Mr. Kemp for Mr. Sercombe Smith.

His Lordship granted the leave craved.

Mr. Beavis then called

Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Clerk of the Magistracy, who produced the original depositions taken in the case, before Mr. Kemp, of Cheung Wan Chow against Su Hin Sheng.

Mr. Beavis proceeded to state that this was an action brought by the plaintiff against defendant for malicious prosecution. It would be necessary for him to go somewhat far back into the circumstances of the case. He regretted very much that the pleadings were not so full as they might be.

His Lordship—They do not tell me anything; I do not call them pleadings at all.

Mr. Beavis went on to state the circumstances of the case. It appeared, he said, that Ng Chi Kin was the owner of a certain birds' nest shop in Jervois Street, where the defendant and plaintiff both lived. Defendant was partner or manager of this shop. Plaintiff was a broker by trade, and rented a room in the shop. This Ng Chi Kin, who was the person who supplied the means for carrying on this shop, was also manager of a Chinese bank in Hongkong and therefore was unable to attend to the business of the shop, so the defendant carried on the business subsidised by Ng Chi Kin, he not having any monetary interest in the shop at all. Plaintiff was a friend of Ng Chi Kin's, and lived in one of the rooms above the shop. About the months of July and August (in the 6th moon) the shop got into difficulties, and the defendant who, although he was not a partner, always represented himself to be, got frightened and went to Canton. On the 14th day of that moon, shortly afterwards, Ng Chi Kin was arrested on a charge of embezzlement and was convicted.

His Lordship—That is the capitalist?

Mr. Beavis—Yes. He was not present, added Mr. Beavis. On hearing that Ng Chi Kin, whom he had represented as his partner, had been arrested and proved to be sole master of the shop, he returned to Hongkong on the 12th August, presumably with the intention of taking possession of the shop and getting what he could from the goods of the shop. He found on his arrival that the salesman of the shop had cleared up affairs as far as he could and had returned the goods in the shop to the merchants who supplied them and the creditors who had not been paid, and had taken away from the shop some private goods belonging to the present defendant in two boxes, and had deposited them in custody of a certain person and left the Colony, being afraid

possibly of being implicated in the trouble. Defendant on finding this out on his return immediately or shortly after gave information against Yue Kwai Ting, the salesman, and got a warrant for his arrest on a charge of stealing particular goods and perhaps some others which were the subject-matter of the present charge. Yue Kwai Ting, either before or immediately after the information was filed, departed from the Colony and the defendant in order to obtain some evidence against him for having stolen these goods asked the plaintiff to give evidence against him, but this the plaintiff refused to do. The day on which this request was made was the 12th of August. On the 15th a letter arrived from Yue Kwai Ting from where he was staying in the country saying that a letter written to the plaintiff informing plaintiff that the charge made against him (Yue Kwai Ting) was false, that he knew in whose possession the goods belonging to the defendant were, and that if the defendant would withdraw the charge against him he would let him know where the goods were so that he might take possession. This letter was written to the plaintiff himself: he believed plaintiff and Yue Kwai Ting were some sort of relations; and it was left at the defendant's dwelling-house and the defendant himself was informed by the plaintiff of what was written in the letter and agreed to withdraw the charge, or at any rate the understanding was that it would be withdrawn and that a letter should be written to Yue Kwai Ting asking where the goods were. A letter was written and in reply there came a delivery order, or something of that nature, to the person who had possession of the goods to give them up. On receipt of this order, which came on the 19th, the plaintiff informed defendant of the fact that he had received it, and that he would go and get the goods. Defendant himself engaged a coolie for the purpose of obtaining these goods from the house in which they were in Hollywood Road. They were obtained from this house, and the defendant was asked by the plaintiff to pay the coolie. Defendant made no reply, but about the same time some detectives came to the house and made some enquiries about the goods—where he got them and so on. Plaintiff refused to say anything at the time, and was taken to the station. A charge was then made against him, and the case came on before the magistrate and plaintiff was dismissed.

His Lordship—When the police came he was in possession of the goods?

Mr. Beavis—He was in the house with the goods.

His Lordship (pointing to a Chinese under the charge of a prison warden)—Is this the defendant?

Mr. Beavis—Yes, your Lordship.

His Lordship—What is he imprisoned for?

Mr. Thomson—For debt.

His Lordship—How do they expect to get \$1,000 out of him?

Mr. Thomson—I don't know. He went to gaol in this action because he could not find security, but he is also in prison in connection with another action.

His Lordship—Well, he does not appear to be a gold mine any way.

Evidence was then given for the plaintiff.

Mr. Thomson, in opening the case for the defence, said there was absolutely no proof of malice. The defendant was master of this shop, though he was assisted in his business by the bank of which Ng Chi Kin was manager. While in Canton defendant got news that the creditors had been rather pressing, and when he came down he found that all the goods in the shop—even his personal property—had been cleared out. On making enquiries he discovered that those had been taken by Yue Kwai Ting. He obtained a warrant for his arrest, whereupon Su Hin Sheng, the plaintiff, approached him with the proposal that if the prosecution was withdrawn the goods would be returned. Defendant naturally supposed that plaintiff was mixed up in the affair with this other man, and laid information against him with the police. There was no malice in what he did.

His Lordship—I am inclined to agree with you. If you went to the police with a story like that the police would have you at once.

Cheung Wan Chow, the defendant, then gave evidence. Mr. Beavis having addressed the Court, His Lordship said that, as he had expressed his opinion before, there was no direct evidence of malice at all, but the question was—Was there any reasonable and probable cause from which he could infer malice? His view was that on the plaintiff's evidence alone, without anything else, there was reasonable and probable cause for his arrest. The facts, which he had to take as far as the evidence went in this case, were that the defendant was master of the shop in question. He went to Canton, and on his return found everything cleared out, private effects and all. He got some information from his *fokis* that Yue Kwai Ting and the plaintiff were mixed up in the removal of the goods. That was his statement. One of the *fokis* said that when the goods were being removed plaintiff was checking them, which was something to prove that the *fokis* did say something about it. When the defendant found he could not get anything out of Yue Kwai Ting he took out a warrant against him, whereupon plaintiff went to defendant and said, "I have heard from Yue Kwai Ting, and if you drop proceedings against him you will get your boxes back." That would be quite sufficient for him. He would have said, "What have you got to do with it? Why does not he write to me and say he will give me my goods? I have the warrant against him." Instead of that he wrote to a man who, it seemed to his Lordship, was Yue Kwai Ting's accomplice, and he thought therefore there was reasonable and probable cause for the arrest of this man Su Hin Sheng. Judgment for the defendant with costs.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 13th November.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

LAND COURT APPEAL CASES.

On the 25th August the Chief Justice granted an application by the Hon. Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, for leave to appeal to the Full Court against two decisions of the Land Court. In one case Lam Tseung Fuk and Lam Tak Luk claimed a tract of foreshore and sea-bed extending from the old boundary of British Kowloon for a distance of 1½ miles in front of Kowloon City and Chinwan, and completely blocking access to the sea over that distance. In the other Ho Lap Hun claimed 6½ mow of land extending from Kowloon City to Lyeemun for about 2½ miles along the shore.

The Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (Crown Solicitor) appeared in support of a motion for leave to adduce fresh evidence. The application for leave to appeal, he said, was made within a few days of the passing of an Ordinance specially passed to enable the Crown to appeal in the circumstances which existed in the cases he was about to refer to. Up to that time there had been no power reserved to the Crown to appeal against any decision of the Land Court. At the time the Land Court was established it was assumed that the cases coming under the ken of that Court would be of small importance, settling practically the titles as between themselves of the peasant farmers and not involving any grave, large interests in which the public of the Colony would be interested. However, the progress of Hongkong had been exceptional, and almost unique in the history of the Colonies of the Empire during the last few years, and the result had been that claims of land which at the time the Land Court was inaugurated were of little or no value had suddenly sprung into value of extreme greatness. Under the second section of this new Ordinance (No. 13 of 1903) the Chief Justice was empowered at any time to give to the Attorney-General leave to appeal to the Full Court from any decision of the Land Court on any claims in the New Territory other than decisions in claims for compensation.

The Chief Justice—What you want to do is to produce fresh evidence?

The Attorney-General—Yes. Certain claims, he said, came before the Land Court—the claims in question. The Crown was not represented on either of these cases coming before the Land Court. Under the law of this Colony, both by virtue of the Land Court Ordinance and of the Convention with China, all the land in the New Territory was the property of the Crown. The Crown therefore was interested in every case which came before the Land Court. Now, the Crown was not represented, because as it appeared from the affidavit of the Crown Solicitor, "no notice was received by or on behalf of the Crown on the hearing of the above claim in the Land Court." The Crown had no notice and was not represented. They were not liable therefore to be charged with negligently standing by and not appearing as they should have done. It never had been the practice to give notice, and until it became apparent from certain decisions, which raised most important public questions, it had never been considered necessary that the Crown should be represented. Therefore he did not say that the claimants did anything out of the way in not giving them notice. The Crown appealed against the decision of the Court below on the ground that it was erroneous on a question of fact, namely, the construction of the foreign law of China; the evidence adduced was fraudulent, and they were prepared to establish that allegation.

The Chief Justice said that what his learned brother and himself had in their minds was that *prima facie* the Attorney-General's application was quite right and proper, and that he should be able to give evidence, but before that one would like to hear if the other side had anything to say against it. The best course to adopt would be to treat this under the Code Sections 248 and 249, so that the Court would give them leave to serve this notice on the other side for them to show cause on the day of the appeal why the Crown should not give fresh evidence, and then they could not say that they were taken by surprise.

The Attorney-General—My object is to prevent them being taken by surprise.

The Chief Justice—This is an intermediate application?

The Attorney-General said he did not think their Lordships apprehended the exact nature of his application. He was asking leave to file no particular affidavits nor to admit any particular class of evidence, but he was asking leave in general to adduce evidence, and if that was given then he would file his affidavits and the other side would have an opportunity of answering them before the appeal came on. Otherwise, on the day of the appeal argument would come on and the other side would know nothing of the affidavits filed and would require delay. On the other hand, if he was given leave to adduce evidence, they would know exactly what affidavits they had to read beforehand.

The Chief Justice—Are you in a position to supply them with affidavits?

The Attorney-General—Yes.

The Chief Justice went on to say that Section 16 of Ordinance 13 of 1903 stated that the Chief Justice might grant leave to appeal "on such terms as to notice, costs and other matters as he may in his discretion think fit." The words "other matters" were very general. If the Attorney-General had, at the time he (the Chief Justice) granted leave to appeal, laid before him the same arguments that had been laid before him now—that the Crown was not represented and that the Land Court came to a decision without hearing the Crown—he thought he could have given the Attorney-General leave to adduce fresh evidence if the other side had leave to adduce any evidence they might wish in reply to that.

But the Attorney-General did not ask him at that time, and it had passed out of the jurisdiction of the Chief Justice into the ken of the Full Court, whom the Attorney-General now asked for leave to give fresh evidence when the appeal came on, and that the other side should have leave to adduce evidence in reply to that evidence. It seemed, said his Lordship, a reasonable application. It did not seem to him possible that the other side could show cause why the Crown should not adduce evidence; they would have notice of this evidence before the day of the appeal. In the circumstances he would grant this application

and leave it to the other side to bring evidence in reply. His Lordship added that he was not quite clear that the Crown could not have appealed under the old Ordinance, for the words of the Act (Section 16, 18 of 1900) were that "any claimant" might appeal. The Crown was the claimant of the whole of the land in the New Territory, and the word "claimant" was not defined. He would not express any formal opinion on the point just then, but he thought there was a question whether the Crown could not have appealed under the old Ordinance.

The Puisne Judge—There is no doubt now at any rate.

The Attorney-General—No, under the new Ordinance.

The Puisne Judge—How long will this case take, because it seriously affects me in my Court?

The Attorney-General—It may take a week. The claims are very important. One is for something like \$500,000.

The Chief Justice made an order granting the application for the adducing of fresh evidence, the affidavits to be given to the other side in due course.

The Puisne Judge concurred.

The Court adjourned.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A QUARREL AMONG PARTNERS.

The firms of Ku Fat and Ku Fat Chun, of 77, Bonham Strand, and 289, Queen's Road Central, petitioned that a receiving order be made against their estate that they be declared bankrupt.

Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton, solicitor, appeared in support of the petition.

His Lordship asked if this was the same application that was brought up in wrong form a week ago.

Mr. Brutton said it was, and that it had now been put in form. It was signed by three of the partners, and two were consenting parties to the application.

His Lordship remarked that this was a case in which five partners out of a total number of ten petitioned that their firm be declared bankrupt, and there were five partners, one of whom was in Canton, who did not consent. If he gave a receiving order he would be dealing not only with the five who were the petitioners but with the five who did not want him to deal with them. He could not make a man bankrupt in Canton if the man did not want it. If it was a creditors' petition it would be a different thing. But how could he make a firm of ten partners bankrupt when only five of them came forward and asked to be made bankrupt? The assets were stated to be \$6,000 and the liabilities \$7,000. What was to prevent one of those partners in Canton who had plenty of money in an individual capacity, not wishing to be made bankrupt, coming forward and making up the \$1,000 that the firm owed? If none of the partners objected to the receiving order being granted that would be a different matter.

Mr. Brutton contended that any petition presented by two members of a firm had invariably been granted in that Court.

His Lordship replied that he could not guarantee the accuracy of any decisions given by other Judges. He was responsible only for his own.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd remarked that in all these other cases the partners had already absconded and were treated as such.

His Lordship added that there was nothing to show that notice of this petition had been served upon the five partners in Hongkong?

Mr. Brutton replied that they had all been notified; some of them were dormant partners.

His Lordship—A receiving order made applies to the several as well as the joint estate of partners.

Mr. Brutton—Yes, assuming that the joint estate is insufficient.

His Lordship said it was quite clear that there was a quarrel among the partners. The managing partner did not agree with this application. It was clear that some of the partners were not satisfied with the way the managing partner

was going on. Why did they not get a dissolution of partnership and apply for a receiver? Why should some of them come there and get the firm made bankrupt when five of them did not admit that they owed the money and could not pay it? This was not the ordinary course of bankruptcy. Some of the partners wanted one thing and some another.

Mr. Brutton contended that the five dissenting partners had received notice of this petition and had the opportunity of coming there and saying anything they wished to say against it.

His Lordship remarked that there was nothing to show that these men had been properly notified. He would adjourn the case for a week to allow a notice of this petition to be served upon the dissenting partners and give them an opportunity of appearing. He was perfectly clear that on the general principles of jurisprudence he had no right to make ten men bankrupt on the petition of five.

Mr. Brutton—Assuming that the five are sleeping partners?

His Lordship—But the manager is one of the dissenting partners.

Mr. Brutton—Yes, because he is making a good thing out of it.

His Lordship—Well, if he is misconducting himself, take criminal action against him.

After further discussion,

His Lordship declined to make any order, but gave leave for the petition to be served on the dissenting partners.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

A SEA-WALL DISPUTE.

Chan Ching Hop and others sued Chan Fuk for \$700 damages suffered by plaintiff through the breach by the defendant of a contract for the erection of a sea-wall. The particulars of the claim were as follows:—To six months' rent of ground at \$70 per month from 10th November, 1902, till 10th May, 1903, \$420; to cost of pulling down and erecting defective wall built by defendant, \$280. Mr. F. W. Goldring of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, for the defendant.

Mr. Grist raised the preliminary objection that the case was *res judicata* and had already been disposed of. The defendant entered into a contract to erect a sea-wall, but it was set aside by consent. The contract was never fulfilled by either party. No work was done under the contract; it was done by an arrangement between the plaintiffs and the defendant. The contract itself was never meant to have been fulfilled. It was practically rescinded, and the defendant brought an action against the present plaintiff for the recovery of \$325. being balance due for work done, and he obtained judgment for that amount.

His Lordship said his recollection of the case was that the defendant did some work, most of which was bad and had to be pulled down; and it was arranged for the purposes of this action that what was good he had to be paid for.

Mr. Grist stated that the plaintiff agreed to pay defendant for the work that was good, and did not require defendant to carry out his contract, therefore there could have been no breach of contract.

Mr. Goldring argued that, because he had consented to judgment being given for payment for the good work done, he had not necessarily shut himself out from bringing this action.

His Lordship did not think the case was *res judicata*. It was not the intention that judgment in the other action was a stop to this one. He was against Mr. Grist on that point.

Mr. Grist said that then the only question was whether this contract was not waived by both parties.

Some evidence was taken, and a further adjournment was made.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

We have received from Dr. Dawson Wright, Hon. Local Secretary of the Oxford Local Examination Committee, the following list of the results of the examination held last July:—

SENIOR.
(D) E. C. Hagen, AA (J) R. Sambenito, AA
(D) F. E. Hasting, AA (J) Lin Chi-pui, AA
(D) A. Melbye, AA (Q) C. Runje, AA
(J) J. Gardner, AA (Q) H. F. Bunje, AA
(J) J. M. H. de Graan Ozorio, AA (Q) I' o Yan-sik, AA
(J) F. J. Muños, AA (Q) Tse Tsok-Kai
Over Age. (Q) Chan Sz-yui.

JUNIOR.

(D) E. L. G. Arnold (J) V. Attenza
(D) L. Le Breton (J) N. J. Ezra
(D) E. Long (J) C. Ontañon
(D) A. E. Moyhing (Q) W. G. Mooney
(D) C. Thomas (Q) H. Watling
(D) U. Wai-tak
Over age:—
(J) C. E. Vergara (Q) Fung Pak-lin
(J) A. Villafior (Q) Tai-chiu-kun
(P) I. W. Kew (Q) Lam Shiu-in
(Q) Au Wing-fo (Q) Lo Shiu-tung
(Q) Fung Wai-hun (Q) Tse Yan-lung

PRELIMINARY.

(D) W. Drude (Q) Chan Kwok-nin
(D) J. Glaisermann (Q) Chan Kwan-lam
(D) H. Jex (Q) V. C. Gallazzi
(D) T. Loft (Q) A. M. Luffad
(D) Ng Wai (Q) Lung Ting-sui
(Q) S. Abubekr (Q) C. Tetzl
Over age, (14-15) (Q) Y. M. Guman
(D) E. Law (Q) Lai Un-lun
(D) W. A. Brandt (Q) C. G. Markar
(J) L. Labeye (Q) S. K. Moosa
(Q) Cheung Lun-shang (Q) A. K. Rahman
(Q) R. F. Galluzzi (D) A. M. Smith
GIRLS: PRELIMINARY OVER AGE (14-16).
(D) L. E. Heang (D) A. M. Smith
(D) F. Mooney (D) G. Smith
Superintending Examiner, Rev. T. W. Pearce.

D - Diocesan School P - Private Tuition
J - S. Joseph's College Q - Queen's College

SPORTING NOTES.

(*Daily Press*, 7th November.)

The burning question in the Cricket Club at the present moment is whether we should continue to have boundary-hits on the Cricket Ground or run all hits out. There is much diversity of opinion on the subject, and it is not probable that it will be settled without a general meeting of members. Several members have written at length on their views, and no doubt what they say will receive due attention. The two principal points, it seems to me, are: (1) Does the abolition of boundaries improve the out-fielding? (2) Is it possible, from the nature of the ground, to have a general system of running out? As for the first question, there seems little doubt that the fielding of the late Inter-port team was vastly improved by the suspension of the boundary rule. This in itself is an argument of very great weight. As for the other point, the circumscribed nature of the ground and the enci element of iron railings undoubtedly make activity in the long field difficult, if not sometimes even dangerous. The no-boundary party is determined to fight the matter out to the bitter end, convinced that the interests of good cricket will be served by the principle which they uphold; still it seems that a number of leading local cricketers are arrayed on the other side.

Local cricketers were naturally much interested in hearing of the possible return of the M.C.C. team for Australia via the Far East, and the idea of a possible game is very enticing. As to the probability of its coming off it is safer to say nothing. The last match of Warner's men in Australia is v. South Australia at Adelaide on the 12th-16th March which would not allow them to be here, provided they come, until well into April, the end of our season. It is well not to be too hopeful, Colombo had a sad disappointment when the Orient's arrived, but Warner was no doubt right in refusing to let his invalids (of whom there were several) take the risk of the Colombo sun.

The impetus given to second class cricket by the formation of the Hongkong Cricket League is undeniable, and the entry of the H.K.C.C. "A" team will be additional incitement to the struggle. By the way, I notice that in some quarters the expression "second class cricket" as applied to that played in the Happy Valley is objected to. This must of course arise from the objector's want of knowledge of the meaning of second class, which, as used in sport, does not imply social distinctions. The second class cricket

counties at home do not complain of the title being applied to them, nor think that it means they are looked on as "grocers or vendors of wine" in consequence. The cricket in the Happy Valley is not up to the standard of the H.K.C.C. at average strength. This has been demonstrated repeatedly in the past few years, as any one resident so long in the Colony knows. The great merit of the new League is that it will raise the standard of minor cricket and afford Hongkong the opportunity in the future of seeing a more varied programme in the cricket season, a feature which has been sadly missing heretofore.

The Shanghai Regatta was nearly made a fiasco by the unpropitious weather, swamping of boats on the first day, the 26th ult., being the rule rather than the exception. In the International eights both crews, the Germans and the Irish, sank, but the Germans were in shallow water when they went under and so got out and, emptying their boat, rowed in winners. In the fours the English boat was water-logged and sank, as did the Irish in the other heat, thus giving Germany and Scotland the right to row in the final. In the latter race on Saturday the German stroke, R. Schwind, was ill when he started, and though he pluckily rowed to the bitter end after several collapses, he could only get within 3 lengths of the Scots. It seems that Hongkong oarsmen had a lucky escape when they failed to get a four together.

The prospects of the Hongkong Club bowing team in the forthcoming match v. the German Club seem fairly good, as five of last year's team are still available, viz.—Messrs. E. H. Hinds, W. B. Walker, F. Maitland, J. Hooper, and J. W. C. Bonnar. For the remaining three places Messrs. J. E. Lee, T. C. Gray, A. Ellis, and G. A. Woodcock all seem well in the running.

The three principal days of the Shanghai Autumn Race Meeting resulted in the chief honours being carried off by Mr. Bruce Robertson's *Gadfly* and Mr. Wingard's *Algerine*. *Gadfly* had one less race, three firsts against *Algerine*'s four, but *Gadfly*'s wins included the Champions'. Mr. Wingard also took the St. Leger in record time with *Vancouver*, Mr. Rung secured three firsts with *Amphion*, *Arrivegade*, and *Amadis*, Mr. Bush three firsts with *Beancake* (2) and *Macca*, Mr. Ellis Kadoorie scored two with *Sonali* and Mr. Bronson two with *Bal*. The remaining first places fell to Mr. Gore (*Manchu*), Mr. John Peel (*Steelboy*), Mr. Marius (*Angelo*), Messrs. Syndicate (*Superior*), Mr. Criterion (*Juggers*), Mr. Cleugh (*The Busman*), Mr. G. H. Potts (*Pandur*), and Mr. W. E. Gray (*Wyandotte*).

(*Daily Press*, 14th November.)

It is very much to be regretted that the Garrison has to meet the Club without the services of Lieut. Lumsden, R.A., who is still laid up with his bad knee. His absence must of course make a tremendous difference to his side, even though it is otherwise very strongly represented. The military bowling seemed good in the R.A. v. Rest of Garrison match on Thursday, 12th November, and there are some very useful bats. The Club, with six interport players and a reserve, appears to have an advantage, but there is a distinct tail to the team. Of bowling there is no lack, and varied bowling too. With Lumsden playing the game should have been a very close thing, but I shall be much surprised if the Club does not pull through in his absence. All cricketers must wish him a speedy recovery, for such cricket as his is a great attraction in any match, and he has not been seen in the field since his return from Shanghai. In fact there has been a dearth of the best kind of cricket since the great Interport contest. There seems to have been a reaction after the excitement. Fortunately Happy Valley cricket has not shared the same fate.

In the League list, the Civil Service C.C. is at present the only undefeated team, but the Parsee C.C. has not yet taken part in the competition. The Craigengower Club, which meets the R.A.M.C. has rather disappointed its

supporters so far, having lost one match and drawn another out of two played. The H.K.C.C. "A" team did not make a very successful start though their conquerors, the R.E., are one of the strongest sides entered, and though the difference was only one of runs—84 against 90. I hardly think Mr. G. P. Lammert, who was captain for the Club, made the best use of his bowlers, while Hooper and Grimble alone of the Club bats distinguished themselves. The "A" team includes all Club players outside the following list.—H. Arthur, R. F. O. Bird, C. R. S. Cooper, J. T. Dixon, Walter Dixon, R. Hancock, H. Hancock, J. Lee, A. R. Lowe, A. Mackenzie, F. Maitland, T. E. Pearce, W. W. Ross, T. Sercombe Smith, W. C. D. Turner, A. G. Ward, and all Army and Navy members or subscribers.

The V.R.C. football team is now practising regularly, games being played at Causeway Bay every Saturday. The club has entered for the Shield, and entertains bright hopes of lifting it. The eleven to represent them has not yet been decided upon, but various likely men are being closely watched in test games. Their matches against the Royal Garrison Artillery and Sherwood Foresters, it is said, cannot be taken as a criterion, for the Army men have been training in the summer.

We have to content ourselves with the hope that Penang will deprive us of the wooden spoon in the Interport Rifle Match, Shanghai having managed to get within 12 of Singapore's 927. It is fairly safe to look on this year's contest as Singapore's third win, against our nine and Shanghai's two. We can only turn back with sorrow to 1899, when Hongkong put together 952 the record score of the series. The disappointment is bitter, for our men showed up very fairly in practice. There seems no explanation of the defeat, except better shooting on the part of our opponents.

The V.R.C. are busy preparing for their regatta to be held on the 16th and 17th of next month. This year the function will not be carried on in conjunction with the Boat Club, though, to an outsider, it seems a pity. Up to date the only crew decided upon is that to defend the Chairman's Cup; we have already published the list. Crews to defend the German, Chinese and Parsee Cups will be picked at the V.R.C. on Saturday, 14th November. The events open to outsiders are four in number, viz.: Challenge Cup, International Cup, German Cup, and Ladies' Prize.

The Canton Regatta has been fixed for the 18th and 19th December. In the International Fours British and German crews will compete. The latter are at present favourites, as they have been at work for nearly two months, while the British crew is only now getting together. A cup has been presented to the Rowing Club by the Imperial Maritime Customs staff, and this will probably be the annual prize of the winner's in the International Race. There will be several scratch four races, besides pairs, to be competed for by the banks and other offices. A challenge has been issued by a German gentleman for competitors in a sculling race, and this event should prove interesting. Altogether great credit is due to the committee of the Canton Rowing Club, for their energy in getting up this regatta. It is interesting to note that it is by no means the first held here; as far back as the 'Forties there is a record of one such meeting.

The Hockey Club played a game on 11th November, against the 11th Mahrattas (the old 10th Bombays, who were so strong last season), and suffered an easy defeat by 6 goals to 1. Although it must be pleaded for the Club that they lacked the services of two of their best forwards, Hooper and Dartnell, both on the sick list, there can be no doubt that the military representatives (mostly natives) were by far the stronger combination, and they stand a very good chance indeed for the Cup this season. Their captain, Lieut. Heath, is probably the best centre forward here, and he helped himself to 3 of their goals. The only Club goal was

notched by Capt. Davies, A.O.D., who is a decided acquisition to the club's forward rank. Parker, who played goal, is such a good half that it seems a pity to play him in goal, but he is also a brilliant custodian, and the number of goals scored against him can only be put down to the fast and accurate shooting of the Mahrattas, which an eye-witness told me was something marvellous. Perhaps a new goal-keeper will be unearthed, and indeed yesterday T. C. Gray, who kept goal for the Club two years ago, turned out. Perhaps he will step between the posts.

As the second club race of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club is arranged for Sunday, 15th Nov., the first class yachts will meet to-day. The latter class held their first race last Sunday in a very light breeze, the winner averaging only a little more than 2½ miles per hour. The one-design class and second class held their first race on Sunday, 1st November, in a light breeze. So far we have not had any good test as to the comparative merits of the one-design yachts; or for that matter, any of the others either. *Alannah*, in spite of her handicap, may carry away honours in the second class; it would hardly be safe to venture further opinion.

The full returns of the Shanghai Autumn Race Meeting show the following to have been the most successful stables:—Wingard, 5 firsts, 1 second, 1 third; Bush, 3 firsts, 2 seconds, 3 thirds; King, 3 firsts, 1 second, 1 third; Bruce Robertson, 3 firsts. The leading jockeys were:—C. R. Burkhill, 5 firsts, 3 seconds, 2 thirds; Moller, 5 firsts, 1 second, 2 thirds; Willeumier, 3 firsts, 5 seconds, 4 thirds; Meyrink, 3 firsts, 2 seconds, 2 thirds; A. W. Burkhill, 3 firsts, 2 seconds, 1 third. The horses that did best were:—*Algerine*, 4 firsts, 1 third; *Gadfly*, 3 firsts; *Beancake*, 2 firsts, 1 second, 1 third; *Bal*, 2 firsts, 1 second; *Somali*, 2 firsts.

OMPAX.

INTERPORT RIFLE MATCH.

The Hongkong team on Wednesday afternoon shot off at the Kowloon Ranges. The light was clear and steady, but the wind was rather tricky from the right; some of the marksmen seemed to strike it much better than others. Lieut. Mowbray S. Northcote, H.K.V.C., hon. secretary of the Hongkong Rifle Association, carried out the arrangements in connection with the match. The umpires were Mr. John Grant for Shanghai, Capt. D. Macdonald for the Straits, and Major A. Chapman, H.K.V.C., for Hongkong. Sergeant-Instructor Davies, R.M.L.I., made the splendid total of 102, being only three marks off the possible, and a score very seldom equalled in the history of the Interport Match. Those who totalled over 90 were Colour Sergeant Cross, R.M.L.I., Sergeant Robertson, R.E., and Corporal R. Lapsley, H.K.V.C. Sergeant J. Parkes, of the Volunteers made 86, and Lieut. Lamme of the Volunteers 88. The grand total of 891 was sixteen in excess of Hongkong's score last year, but it is less than both Shanghai's score and Singapore's score of last year.

200 YARDS.

In the 200 yards Sergeant-Instructor Davies headed the list with 35 out of a possible 35. The scores, shot for shot, were as follows:—Sergt.-Inst. Davies, R.M.L.I. 5 5 5 5 5 5 35 Gun.-Inst. J. S. Chase, R.N. 5 3 5 5 5 5 33 Corp. Angus, R.E. 4 5 5 5 4 4 32 Col.-Sergt. F. Cross, R.M.L.I. 3 5 4 5 5 4 31 Corp. R. Lapsley, H.K.V.C. 4 5 3 4 4 5 4 31 Sergt. Thornhill, R.E. 4 4 5 5 5 4 4 31 Lieut. Lammert, H.K.V.C. 4 4 5 4 5 4 4 30 Sergt. J. Parkes, H.K.V.C. 3 5 5 5 5 4 30 Sergt.-Inst. Griffiths, R.M.L.I. 3 4 3 5 5 4 29 Sergt. E. Robertson, R.E. 4 3 3 4 4 5 5 28

500 YARDS.

In the 500 yards Sergeant-Instructor Davies made 33 out of 35, and Corporal R. Lapsley, H.K.V.C., made 34:—

Lapsley 4 5 5 5 5 5 34 Davies 4 5 5 5 5 4 33 Cross 4 5 5 5 3 5 5 32 Robertson 5 5 5 4 5 3 5 32 Parkes 4 4 4 5 5 5 32 Lammert 3 3 5 5 4 5 5 30

Chase	245	533	5	27
Griffiths	225	453	26	
Thornhill	244	353	25	
Angus	343	343	23	

600 YARDS.

Sergeant Instructor Davies scored 34 out of a possible 35 at six hundred yards:—

Davies	5 5 5 5 4 5	34
Robertson	5 4 3 5 5 4	31
Griffiths	4 3 5 5 4 5	31
Lapsley	4 4 5 3 5 4 5	30
Cross	3 5 5 3 3 5 5	29
Thornhill	5 5 5 4 4 2 4	29
Lammert	4 3 4 4 5 4 4	28
Angus	2 4 4 5 5 3 4	27
Chase	4 5 2 3 4 3 3	24
Parkes	4 2 2 4 5 2 5	24

AGGREGATE.

The aggregate was as follows:—

	200	500	600	Total
Davies	35	33	34	102
Lap ley	31	34	30	95
Cross	31	32	29	92
Robertson	28	32	31	91
Lammert	30	30	28	88
Parkes	30	32	24	86
Griffiths	29	26	31	86
Thornhill	31	25	29	85
Chase	33	27	24	84
Angus	32	23	27	82

Average Total 310 294 287 891 per man, 89.1.

The Singapore team fired on the 12th inst. The scores were as follows:—

Captain Elliot	100
Captain Baker	97
Lieut. Phillips	86
Abdul Kariu, 73rd C. I.	95
Mohd. Hashim, 73rd C.	95
Sergt. Ha, ward	93
Sergt. Major Mugliston	91
Corpl. Morrison	90
Sergt. Murray	86
Shaik Mader, 73rd C. I.	84

Total 927

Average per man, 92.7.

The following is a complete record of the matches.—

1889, Shanghai	819	Singapore	777
Hongkong	774		
1890, No match.			
1891, Hongkong	867	Shanghai	830
Singapore	741		
1892, Hongkong	835	Shanghai	800
Singapore	752		
1893, Hongkong	822	Shanghai	802
Singapore	768		
1894, Hongkong	823	Singapore	817
Shanghai	760		
1895, Singapore	934	Shanghai	903
Hongkong	879		
1896, Hongkong	916	Shanghai	900
Singapore	870		
1897, Singapore	934	Hongkong	916
Shanghai	860		
1898, Hongkong	934	Singapore	923
Shanghai	893		
1899, Hongkong	952	Singapore	926
Shanghai	887		
1900, Hongkong	930	Singapore	909
Shanghai	900		
1901, Hongkong	901	Singapore	881
Shanghai	841	Penang	721
1902, Shanghai	926	Singapore	893
Hongkong	875	Penang	871

From 1889 to 1894 the match was fired with the Martini-Henry rifle, from 1895 onwards with the Lee-Metford.

Hongkong has thus won nine out of thirteen matches, Singapore two, and Shanghai two.

The following resolution was passed at Liverpool on the occasion of Sir Matthew Nathan's promotion to the Governorship of Hongkong:—Resolved—That the Committee of the African Trade Section of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce desire heartily to congratulate Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., on his new appointment to the important position of Governor of Hongkong. The Committee desire to record their satisfaction with the able manner in which Sir Matthew Nathan has fulfilled his duties whilst acting as Governor of the Gold Coast Colony, and they wish him all success in his new sphere of duty.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. THE PEAK.

With the usual punctuality of Hongkong cricket, it was nearer 12.30 than noon when play began on the Cricket Ground on Saturday. Some difficulty was experienced in getting together the Peak team. Indeed it had been feared on Friday that a side might not be raised. Happily, however, eleven men were at length got together, and the Peak was then very fairly represented. Winning the toss, Sercombe Smith took in Chichester with him to face the bowling of Lumsden and Mahon. The opening was uneventful, for though Chichester scored a 4 and a 2 in Mahon's first over the score was only 16 when in the tenth over Chichester fell to a catch by Turner off Mahon, whose bowling also dismissed Davies an over later. Mackenzie then joined Smith in a stand which brought about bowling changes and lasted for 30 runs after lunch. The score was 63 when Mackenzie left. Then came a series of disasters, Hancock going out at 65, J. T. Dixon at 6, Walter Dixon at 80, Arthur at 84, and Ross at 110. Not till Rademacker joined Smith was the prospect of the Peakites improved, but these two put on no less than 70 runs, Rademacker was caught at 180, and 9 runs later Sercombe Smith's long and useful, though decidedly lucky, innings came to an end. There were ten 4's in his 101. When the Club went in they had no chance of victory, the late start having curtailed the hours of play so much. However a good attempt was made to force the game, and the Peak bowlers were knocked about a bit. Turner was out at 13, and Maitland at 31. Then Pearce and Moore doubled the score, but at 71 the Club captain was out. Pearce followed at 81. Heath and Bird went on till 113, when Bird was dismissed. In the gathering gloom Batchellor and Heath put on 6 more, and stumps had to be drawn. Heath's meritorious 23 being unfinished, the match would have been a good one, had it commenced at the proper time. Scores and analysis:—

THE PEAK.

T. Sercombe Smith, st Heath, b Bird	101
Major Chichester, c Turner, b Mahon	10
Capt. P. G. Davies, A.O.D., c Maitland, b Mahon	0
A. Mackenzie, c Batchellor, b Bird	23
H. Hancock, c Pearce, b Bird	2
J. T. Dixon, c Bird, b Pearce	0
Walter Dixon, c Batchellor, b Pearce	4
H. Arthur, c Bird, b Pearce	4
W. W. Ross, b Batchellor	14
Rademacker, c Mahon, b Bird	15
F. F. Gibson, not out	3
Extras	13
Total	189
H.K.C.C.	
W. C. D. Turner, c Chichester, b J. T. Dixon	5
F. Maitland, b Chichester	21
T. E. Pearce, l.b.w., b Rademacker	20
G. Moore, R.N., c sub., b Rademacker	28
Lieut. Heath, not out	23
R. E. O. Bird, c Chichester, b Rademacker	10
F. H. Batchellor, R.N., not out	1
Extras	11
Total (5 wickets)	119
R. R. Morley, R.N., Capt. W. F. Lumsden, R.A., Lieut. Mahon, and A. Wilson, R.N., did not bat.	

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE PEAK.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Lumsden	15	2	42	
Mahon	13	2	37	2
Bird	12	2	35	4
Pearce	13	2	39	3
Batchellor	5	3	3	1
Horley	2	—	12	
Moore	5	1	8	—
H.K.C.C.				
J. T. Dixon	10	1	33	1
Chichester	7	—	27	1
Mackenzie	4	—	16	—
Rademacker	6	—	32	3

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Thursday afternoon, at Happy Valley, a match was played between the Hongkong Football Club and the Royal Engineers in fine weather. The teams were as follows:—

H.K.F.C.—F. H. Kew, goal; H. C. Austen and E. F. Autott, backs; H. C. Gray, J. W. C. Bonnar, and J. M. Forrester, halves; W. H.

Williams, H. A. Brent, C. R. S. Cooper, J. D. Danby, and C. Humphreys, forwards.

R. E.—T. H. Widdows, goal; W. Morecambe and W. Hemmings, backs; H. S. Gaskell, P. H. Campbell and W. T. Caulfield, halves; R. Nettleton, C. H. R. Chesney, A. C. Hills, J. Spiers and R. Hathaway, forwards.

Referee, Mr. C. T. Kew.

Linesmen, Mr. A. Brown and Mr. J. Goddard, R.E.

The Club kicked off but were forced back into their own ground, and for the R.E. Campbell had a long shot at goal which went past. When the ball was set a-going again Brent carried it down the right wing, and getting a chance to steady himself centred well, but Cooper sent it past wide of the posts. The Engineers were not long in returning the visit, and Chesney had a try at goal which Autott's close attentions made ineffectual. As the game settled down the Engineers' 1 ft wing, Spiers and Hathaway, had a nice run into Club territory and Kew had to run out to save. Danby was the next to show up. He dribbled cleverly down till near the R.E. goal, and centred to Cooper, who was despoiled by Morecambe. The Club returned to the attack and from a smart scrimmage close to goal Danby had almost scored when he was put offside. Play was carried on in midfield for the next five or ten minutes, until the Club broke away, and Brent on the run had a shot which shaved the cross-bar. Just before half-time the Engineers forced the pace, and Spiers had an opening that he failed to take advantage of; he kicked high over the bar.

Half-time score—Nil.

When the game was re-started the Club started pressing. Williams had a fast run up the wing, and finished with a splendid long shot which Widdows had to fist out. Cooper got hold of the ball and got it well up—too well up in fact, for he was so harassed by Morecambe and Hemmings that he ran it right over the line. The R.E. forwards got possession from the goal-kick and carried play right down the field. Spiers again got a chance which he did his best to make good, but without success. A minute later he sent in a "steamy" one which taxed Kew's fistings abilities to turn. Austen cleared well up the field, and Danby and Forrester (who was now playing on the wing, having changed places with Humphreys) carried the ball up into the Club territory. When still quite a distance from goal Forrester sent in a slow trundling shot which in some curious manner slipped into the net past Widdows. Encouraged by the success, the Hongkong side made the pace hot, first one wing and then another having a shot. At last Danby in a scrimmage headed the ball into the R.E. net again. Hills, Chesney, and Spiers worked hard for a point, but get past Kew they could not. Williams had hard lines in not adding another for the Club. This honour was reserved for Cooper, who beat Widdows again with a swift, strong shot. When the whistle sounded the score was

H.K.F.C., 3 goals; R.E., 0.

A Rugby practice game took place on Saturday between teams captained by H. C. Sandsford and E. D. C. Wolfe. Wolfe's XV. had the upper hand at first, and scored 4 tries to nil before the interval. After the change, Robertson was detached from the leaders' side, which altered the complexion of affairs entirely. Sandsford's team won in the end by 3 goals and 2 tries to 4 tries.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

A general meeting of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club was held in the Cricket Pavilion on Thursday to consider the following proposal by the owners of the championship class:—

That the race for the championship class be held on the Saturdays previous to the dates fixed for club races at the annual general meeting.

The Hon. F. A. May took the chair; there were eleven other members present.

The Chairman said that the meeting had been called to decide whether the club races for the first class yachts should be held on Saturday instead of Sunday as was arranged

at the last general meeting. Certain circumstance made it impossible for him to race on Sundays, and others also preferred Saturday to Sunday. He moved that the races for the first class should be held on the Saturdays previous to the dates arranged for the races of the other classes.

Commodore Robinson seconded.

Mr. Slade said he would propose that the motion be amended so that it be distinctly understood that the owners of the first class yachts, unanimously agreed to it on account of the present peculiar circumstances, and that it be made clear that the Saturday racing of this season should not be used as a precedent.

Mr. Bird seconded Mr. Slade's amendment.

Mr. Deacon supported the amendment; and when put to the meeting it was carried by 6-3.

The Chairman then drew attention to the extra expenses which would be incurred for a start, etc., on two days instead of one.

After the general meeting there was a committee meeting to settle:—

- (1) Course for the 2nd Club Race.
- (2) The Regatta Programme.

The dates fixed on for 1903-1904 club races at the annual general meeting were as follows:—

2nd Club Race	... 15th November.
3rd	... 29th
4th	... 6th December.
5th	... 20th
6th	... 10th January.
7th	... 24th
8th	... 7th February.
9th	... 21st
10th	... 7th March.
11th	... 21st
12th	... 10th April.

A Ladies' Race for a prize presented by Colonel L. F. Brown, R.E., will be held on the 21st November.

FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

The championship class of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club on the 7th inst. turned out to contest the first race towards this season's championship. All four boats, *Dione*, *Vernon*, *Elspeth* and *Aileen*, faced the starter. The course lay from Kowloon Police Pier, round Channel Rocks, Black Rock, Meyer's East buoy, Channel Rocks and Black Rock again, and back to Kowloon Police Pier.

The start took place at noon in a light westerly wind—a very light one—and a glance at the harbour revealed belts of calm and cats' paws. *Elspeth*, *Dione* and *Vernon* got away together with a good start, *Aileen* alone being behind at second gun-fire. Spinnakers were set when crossing the line and main booms slackened well out. Towar's Blackhead's Pier *Vernon* drew ahead, closely followed by *Elspeth* and *Dione*, the four boats forming into procession: *Elspeth*, *Vernon*, *Dione*, *Aileen*. Entering Hunghom Bay they paired, *Elspeth* and *Vernon* leading, and *Dione* and *Aileen* a cable's length behind. There was not enough wind to keep the sails full, and main sheets had to be overhauled to allow the booms to go out to their fullest. *Elspeth* and *Vernon*, sailing neck and neck, were further inshore than the others, so, on altering their course to head for Channel Rocks, the four boats were brought into line. About this time *Vernon* drew a little ahead. Rounding Channel Rocks in close procession the order was *Elspeth*, *Aileen*, *Vernon*, *Dione*; and immediately on the other side *Aileen* came up level to *Elspeth*. It took one hour from the start to Channel Rocks. The three leading boats were in a bunch when approaching Black Rock; after gybing around it and approaching Kowloon Dock peninsula *Vernon* had a good lead, *Dione* was second, *Aileen* third, and *Elspeth* a long way behind. En route to Meyer's East buoy *Aileen* passed *Dione*, and at one time tried hard for first place. *Elspeth* getting into a calm belt lost ground beyond recovery. Approaching the kerosene godown *Vernon* distanced herself and a long interval separated all. At Meyer's East buoy the race was two hours old. Heading for Channel Rocks on the second journey *Dione* made an effort to pass *Aileen*, but the latter, favoured with a good slant, recovered her former distance. *Vernon*, who had been gaining ground all the time, rounded Channel Rocks five minutes ahead of *Aileen*, and continued to gain on the passage to Black Rock. Afterwards, of course, there

was a tiresome hour's beat home against a wind dead ahead. The result was as follows:—

	H. M. S.
Vernon	3 42 43
Aileen	3 58
Dione	4 10 58
Elepeth	4 23 4

The course being ten miles long, the average speed of Vernon would be a little more than 2 2/3rd miles per hour.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

The following cards were returned for this competition from the 7th November to 9th, November:—

Mr. J. Douglas	83 — 12 = 71
Capt. Radford	86 — 15 = 71
Mr. H. W. Slade	93 — 18 = 75
Mr. K. McK. Ross	90 — 14 = 76
Mr. A. C. Butt	95 — 18 = 77
Mr. W. J. Saunders	94 — 15 = 79
Mr. E. J. Grist	84 — 3 = 81
Mr. E. V. D. Parr	96 — 15 = 81
Mr. A. J. Williams	96 — 15 = 81
Mr. C. E. H. Beavis	82 — scr. = 82
Mr. N. J. Stabb	97 — 14 = 83
Mr. J. Rodgers	101 — 16 = 85
Dr. Drew	99 — 10 = 89
34 entries.	

POOL.

There were 20 entries for the Pool, with the following result:—

Mr. Douglas	83 — 12 = 71
Capt. Radford	86 — 15 = 71

BOWLING.

CLUB GERMANIA V. CANTON.

The German Club on the 9th inst took over a team of four bowlers to Canton and played a match on the Shamen against the Canton Club. The game was very exciting, as the home team led on the first two alleys, but some excellent bowling by the Germans at the end, coupled with a break down on the Canton side, gave the visitors from Hongkong a victory by 100 points. The Canton men intend to pay Hongkong a visit after the 12th prox. (when the Germans and the Hongkong Club meet) and play a return match. The scores were:—

CLUB GERMANIA		CANTON.	
J. Waller	755	O. Becker	788
J. Wacker	722	C. Allers	701
A. Rombach	688	P. Suedhaus	646
A. Thiessen	636	E. Hug	596

2831 2731

It is proposed to make the match a regular institution and have a challenge shield.

HOCKEY.

The H.K.H.C. yesterday met the 93rd Burmas, who put into the field a team containing 3 officers and 9 natives. The latter played a good and exceedingly fast game, and the Club could not hold them for long. Gray in goal saved a very hot shot early on the match, but when about 15 minutes had elapsed Simpson got one though for the Burmas, an example followed very shortly by India Singh, who throughout was excellent. At half-time the score was 2 to nil against the Club, and soon after the recommencement a fine shot from the left wing beat Gray, who had every excuse for not stopping it. After this the Burmas had it all their own way in the gathering dusk, and added another 4 goals, finally winning by 7 goals to nil.

THE "EMPERESS OF INDIA'S" COLLISION CASE.

In H.B. Majesty's Supreme Court (in Admiralty) at Shanghai, on the 6th November, the case came on before His Honour Sir Hiram Shaw Wilkinson, Chief Justice, and Commander Moore, R.N., H.M.S. *Sirius* Naval Assessor, the Imperial Chinese Government, the owners of the cruiser *Wong Tai* v. the owners of the steamer *Empress of India*.

Mr. A. S. P. White Cooper and Mr. W. North Symonds appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., of Hongkong and Mr.

W. A. C. Platt for the defendant company.

Mr. White Cooper handed in an Admiralty chart of the coast of China near to Hongkong, and in reply to the court counsel said that he proposed to leave the Court to mark thereon the position of the wreck.

His Lordship granted leave to counsel to correct two clerical errors in paragraph 4 of the petition, Mr. Sharp offering no objection.

Mr. White Cooper then read the following petition.

The petition of the plaintiffs shows as follows:—

1.—Plaintiffs are the owners of the cruiser *Wong Tai* of 2,200 tons register, which at the time of the event hereafter referred to was on a voyage from Shanghai to Hongkong and Canton manned by a crew of 178 hands all told, and carrying in addition to her proper armament guns and munitions of war for the Imperial Military forces in Canton and six passengers.

2.—Defendants are the owners of the British screw steamer *Empress of India*.

3.—The *Wong Tai* left Shanghai on the 3rd August 1903 at about 12.15 a.m., anchored at Gutzlaff the first night, and next morning at 5 o'clock started again. Anchored again at Fu Yan Island on the 15th August 1903 about 7 p.m. and left on the 16th August 1903 at 7.30 a.m. and started for Hongkong.

4.—At 10.38 p.m. on the 17th August 1903 sighted the Cape of Good Hope light, and at 10.54 sighted Breaker Point light proceeding at the rate of about nine knots. The *Wong Tai* had her regulation lights properly fixed and burning brightly and a good lookout was being kept on board of her. The weather was dark but clear. The course was west by south & south, which would take the cruiser straight to Pedro Blanco Island. At about 10.45 p.m. the lights of a steamer astern were sighted at a distance of about 8 or 9 miles. Those on watch saw the two masthead lights in a direct line. This steamer afterwards proved to be the British steamer *Empress of India*. There was no vessel ahead. The red and green lights of the *Empress of India* became visible concurrently when she was at a distance of about 2 or 3 miles.

5.—The *Empress of India* was seen rapidly overtaking the cruiser *Wong Tai*, and the *Wong Tai* kept her course without alteration until after the collision occurred. The *Empress of India* did not alter her course or speed, but came straight on crashing the *Wong Tai*, striking the *Wong Tai* on the port quarter with her starboard bow and grazed along the side of the cruiser smashing her boats.

Immediately after the collision the helm on the cruiser was put hard aport and the engines were stopped. The *Wong Tai* then sheered off to starboard and the *Empress of India* to port striking the cruiser with her starboard propeller and inflicting injuries to her which caused her to sink in about two hours' time after the collision, off Breaker Point position bears N 82° Mag. distance 15 miles. The collision occurred at about 11.50 p.m.

6.—After the collision the *Empress of India* stopped at a distance of about two miles from the cruiser and stood by to render assistance.

7.—The cruiser blew her whistle for assistance and the *Empress* sent a boat and subsequently two large boats in which and in the boats of the cruiser 166 out of the officers and crew and five of the passengers were saved.

8.—The pumps of the cruiser were set to work immediately after the collision, but the water gained on them rapidly, and at about 1.50 a.m. on the morning of the 18th August 1903 she heeled over and then sank by the stern carrying down with her Commander Chee Fung Yee, the 4th engineer, seven able-bodied seamen, two boys and one stoker and one passenger.

9.—A good lookout was not kept on board the *Empress* previous to the collision.

Plaintiffs therefore pray,

1.—That the plaintiffs have judgment against the defendants for the damage occasioned to them by reason of the collision and for costs.

2.—That the bail given by the defendants be in such damages and costs.

3.—That the amount of such damages may be referred to the Registrar for his report.

4.—That the plaintiffs may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case shall require.

Defendants to this petition are the Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamship Company.

ANSWER.

In answer to said petition the defendants say as follows:—

1.—The defendants are the Canadian Pacific Railway Company whereof the head office is at Montreal in the Dominion of Canada. The defendants are the owners of the Royal Mail twin screw steamship *Empress of India*, registered in London of 6,000 tons gross burden, and subsidised by the Commissioners of the Admiralty for service as an armed cruiser. At the time of the events herein after mentioned she was on a voyage from Woosung to Hongkong, manned by a crew 233 hands all told.

2.—On Monday, 17th August 1903, at about 9.45 p.m. the *Empress of India* had just passed the Lamock Islands. The night was dark, the weather was fine, the wind was light: the *Empress of India* was proceeding at a speed of about 14 knots an hour through the water; her regulation lights were duly exhibited and burning brightly and a good lookout was being kept. In these circumstances, those on board observed at a distance ahead of about 8 miles a white light which proved to be the stern light of the *Wong Tai*.

3.—As the *Empress of India* proceeded, the white light gradually opened out on her starboard bow, until as she was about to pass the *Wong Tai* the white light suddenly began to close in and the *Wong Tai* was observed to be turning to port across the course of the *Empress of India*. Immediately thereafter the *Wong Tai*'s red light appeared and (she continuing to swing round with great rapidity) her port bow struck the starboard side of the *Empress of India* near the break of the forecastle. When the *Wong Tai* changed her course as aforesaid the *Empress of India* was heading in a direction divergent from the course of the *Wong Tai*, and if she had kept her course and speed the *Empress of India* would have passed her in ample safety at a distance away of quarter of a mile or thereabouts. The collision occurred about 15 miles E. by S. of Breaker Point at about 11.48 p.m.

4.—The *Empress of India* took all proper measures to avoid the collision and to minimise the force and effect of the impact, and to render assistance to the *Wong Tai* afterwards. Immediately when risk arose through the *Wong Tai* changing her course as aforesaid, the *Empress of India*'s helm was put hard a starboard and her port engine was reversed full speed, and those on board her, perceiving that collision could only then be avoided by the *Wong Tai* porting, repeatedly hailed her so to do. After the collision the *Empress of India* stood by the *Wong Tai* until she sank at two (2) next morning, and the *Empress of India* remained at the scene of the collision for some hours afterwards.

5.—To those on board the *Empress of India* it seemed that the *Wong Tai* must have negligently failed to observe, until close thereto, a junk which was on her port bow, and that those on board the *Wong Tai* must have lost all presence of mind. The junk was not in the *Wong Tai*'s way and if she changed her course for the junk, as was unnecessary, she ought to have ported instead of starboating.

6.—A good lookout was not kept on the *Wong Tai*.

7.—The *Wong Tai*, though the overtaken vessel, neglected to keep her course.

8.—The *Wong Tai* improperly starboarded her helm.

9.—The *Wong Tai* having starboarded her helm as aforesaid, improperly persisted in swinging around to port, though such action rendered the collision certain, and though the collision would have been avoided by the *Wong Tai* porting.

10.—The *Wong Tai* improperly attempted to cross ahead of the *Empress of India*.

11.—The *Wong Tai* gave no whistle or signal or warning of any kind to the *Empress of India* to indicate the said change of course.

12.—Both before and after the collision the *Wong Tai* was navigated in a reckless and improper manner.

13.—Those on board the *Wong Tai* neglected to comply with the established practice of seamanship and violated the principles of the general maritime law, and particularly of articles 21 and 29 of the "Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea."

(To be continued.)

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

AMOY, 31st October.
Merchandise exported during the period from 26th September to 30th October was:—407 piculs of Amoy white sugar; 6,570 piculs of brown sugar; 3,780 piculs of cards; 7,100 pieces hemp sacking; 1,569 piculs paper (No. 1 quality); 525 piculs paper (No. 2 quality); 305 piculs prepared tobacco; and 1,030 pieces of kittysols.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 14th November.

ON LONDON.—	Telegraphic Transfer	1.95
	Bank Bills, on demand	1.93
	Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.97
	Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.97
	Credits, at 4 months' sight	1.97
	Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.97
ON PARIS.—	Bank Bills, on demand	2.24
ON GERMANY.—	Credits 4 months' sight	77
	On demand	182
ON NEW YORK.—	Bank Bills, on demand	43
	Credits, 60 days' sight	43
ON BOMBAY.—	Telegraphic Transfer	132
	Bank, on demand	132
ON CALCUTTA.—	Telegraphic Transfer	132
	Bank, on demand	132
ON SHANGHAI.—	Bank, at sight	7
	Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—	On demand	86
ON MANILA.—	On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—	On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—	On demand	167
ON HAIPHONG.—	On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	On demand	62
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate		811.25
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael		59.70
BAR SILVER, per oz.		26

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th November, 1903.—A fair enquiry continues to be met with, but owing to the reluctance of holders to sell at prices offered, business has become very difficult, and transactions consequently restricted in volume. The feature of the week under review has been the marked improvement in Banks.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais after sales at \$630 rapidly advanced to \$635, with subsequent sales at \$637, \$640 and \$642, closing firm with buyers at \$640. The last quotation received from London is given at £63. Nationals close quiet at \$294.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are easier with probable buyers at \$492. China Traders are on offer at \$61 after sales at that rate and \$60. Cantons can be procured to a small extent at \$175. North Chinas and Yangtzes are unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—No business is reported under this head. Small parcels of Hongkongs and Chinas can be obtained at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have again been dealt in at \$31, and further shares are in the market at this figure. Indo-Chinas are weak with local sellers at \$73, the latest Shanghai quotation being Tls. 51 sales. Douglasses can be placed to a small extent at \$30, with sellers at \$31. China and Manilas, Star Ferries, and Shell Transports are unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue firm with small buyers at \$96. Luzons are still on offer at \$10.

MINING.—Punjoms have sold at \$1.50, and can still be procured at that figure. Raubs close weak with sellers at \$8.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue to rule firm. A small sale is reported at \$243 at which the market closes with further buyers, no shares being obtainable at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are quiet with probable sellers at \$86 after a small sale at the rate. New Amoy Docks are procurable at \$38. Farnhams after reported sales in the North up to Tls. 126 have fallen away to Tls. 120 with no buyers now over Tls. 118.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$153 and \$155, and close with further sellers at the latter rate. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged. Humphrey's Estates are still procurable at \$102 after small sales at the rate. Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$145, holders still demanding \$147. Orientes are weak at \$58 sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs are stronger with buyers at \$15. There is no change to report in the position of the Northern stocks.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$22, \$22, and \$22, and close with further buyers at the latter rate. China Borneos are on offer at \$9. China Providents have sold at \$9, and Watsons at \$14. Powells are wanted at \$8.

MFM.—Dairy Farm Company, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 19th instant. Hongkong Steam Water-Boat Co., Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 24th instant, transfer books close on the 19th instant. Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	(\$642, L'don, £63
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$28
B. Shares	28	\$28
Foun. Shares	21	\$10
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$3, sellers
Canton, Hongkong Ice	\$10	\$10, nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40
China-Borneo Co., Ld.	\$12	\$9, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ld.	\$10	\$5
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sales
China Sugar	\$100	\$96, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$250
Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ld.	\$50	\$15
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 33
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 22
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 35
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160
Hongkong	\$10	\$14, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$13, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12.25, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6.5, sellers
" Steam Water-Boat Co., Ld.	\$100	\$320, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$147, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$248, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$86, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$203, sales & buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$175, sellers
China Fire	\$60	\$90, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$61, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320, sellers
North China	£25	Tls. 216, sellers
Union	\$100	\$492, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$152, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$35
WestPoint Building	\$50	\$52
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ld.	\$50	\$15
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	50 cents, sellers
Punjom	\$11	\$1.50, sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	30 cents
Raubs	18/10	\$8, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6	\$38, sellers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$58, sellers
Powell, Ld.	\$10	\$8, buyers
Steamship Cos.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$19, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$30, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$31.4, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£16	\$73, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	18/- buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$26, buyers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ld.	\$5	(\$16, sellers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ld.	Tls. 100	Tls. 118, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	nominal
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$210 buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ld.	\$20	\$23, buyers
Watkins Ld.	\$10	\$7.5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 6th November.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their share report for this date say:—The race holidays have almost entirely interfered with business since our last, practically nothing will be done until next week. The T/T Rate is 2/6. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—Have been imported from Hongkong at Tls. 632. The London quotation still remains £65. Marine & Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas.—We have to record a weakening tendency in this stock, which has steadily declined from Tls. 56 for December to 54, and for March Tls. 58 to 56. No cash business reported. The latest quotation from Hongkong is £77. Docks & Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. remain unchanged with buyers at the following quotations:—Tls. 118 cash, 119 November and 120 December. Shanghai and Honkew Wharves have been placed at Tls. 225 for March. Sugar Cos.—No business reported. Mining.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co.—The only business reported is Tls. 6.12 ex. dividend, bearer scrip for cash. Lands.—No business reported. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons have been dealt in at Tls. 38 f r cash. Shanghai Gas.—A single transaction is reported at Tls. 108. China Flours Tls. 65 c.n.i. at Maatschappij, &c., Langkats have somewhat improved, and business has been done at Tls. 268, 270 and 272 for cash. For November Tls. 271 and 271 was done early in the week, and 275 for December. For March 285 and 283 is reported with buyers at the latter rate. Stores and Hotels.—H. & Holtz shares have been placed at Tls. 32 and 34 for cash. No other business reported. Miscellaneous.—A Lot of Municipal Debs. have been placed at Tls. 91. for 5 per cent. and 100 for 6 per cent.

FREIGHTS.

AMOY, 31st October.
The freight on tea to New York via the Pacific is 11 gold cents per lb. gross; and via the Suez Canal 25/- per ton.

During the month of October there were 15 arrivals from Hongkong:—Thales, Shimosa, Thales, Daigi Maru, Hatai, Daigi Maru, Anping Maru, Hainan, Whampoa, Haiching, Thales, Daigi Maru, Hainan, Haiching, and Anping Maru.

HONGKONG, 6th November.

Freights continue as dull as ever and there is no likelihood of there being an improvement before the China New Year.

From Saigon to Hongkong, a middle sized steamer has been closed at 7 cents per picul. From Saigon to the Philippines there is no enquiry at all.

From the Yangtze to Canton the quotation is 14 cands., but so far we have heard of no fixtures.

From Java to Hongkong 15 cents per picul is offering for dry sugar.

From Newchwang to Canton a fair demand has resulted in several fixtures at 22 cents per picul.

From Moji to Hongkong the quotation is \$1.75 per ton for coal.

From Hongay to Hongkong 80 cents per ton for coal is offering.

The s.s. M. Strure has been taken up for three months, at \$5,000 per month, to run between Haiphong and Hongkong.

FOOCHOW, 6th November.

The latest freight quotations are as follows:—To London.—45/- per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Odessa.—40/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Continent, Bremen and Hamburg.—45/- per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Havre.—40/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Naples and Genoa.—40/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Trieste.—40/- per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Australia.—12/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; to New York.—25/- per ton of 40 cubic feet; to Common Overland Points.—14/- Gold Cents; to Pacific Coast Ports.—\$1 Gold per ton.

COAST FREIGHTS.

One man's gain is another man's loss, as coasting steamship owners know to their cost. There has been no change for the better during the last week. Bountiful harvests all the East over have resulted in a general and severe depression in the demand for coastwise tonnage. At Shanghai, in fact, several—six to eight steamers—time charterers by Chinese, have been thrown over on account of the charterers' inability to fulfil the contract.

The port of Newchwang closes till after the ice season on the 20th inst. The last charters, and probably the closing ones from that port to Canton, were two fixtures at 22 cents per picul.

Several coal charters from Moji to Hongkong have been effected at \$1.75 per ton; and one steamer, the Norwegian Elge, secured \$1.20 per ton from Moji to Amoy. One fixture is reported from Koratsu to Manila at \$2.75 per ton. From Hongay to Hongkong 80 to 90 cents is offering; and the s.s. Holstein has been fixed for Hongay to Swatow at \$1.30.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

November—

6. Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
6. Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
6. Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
6. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
6. Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
6. Iwumi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
6. Indrapura, British str., from Portland.
6. Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
6. Shawmut, American str., from Manila.
6. Sungkian, British str., from Manila.
6. Tetartos, German str., from Samarang.
7. Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
7. Ellen Rickmers, German str., from Moji.
7. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
7. Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
7. Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
7. Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
7. Thea, German str., from Newchwang.
7. Ulysses, British str., from Liverpool.
7. Wosang, British str., from Swatow.
8. Clara Jebson, German str., from Hongay.
8. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
8. Diu, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
8. Glendorn, British ship, from New York.
8. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
8. Hanoi, French str., from Hoihow.
8. Kun Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
8. Kowloon, German str., from Chinkiang.
8. Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
8. Lyemoon, German str., from Canton.
8. Oanfa, British str., from Caroline Island.
8. S. Rickmers, British str., from Mauritius.
8. Shantung, German str., from Foochow.
8. Trocas, British str., from Hankow.
9. Benmohr, British str., from London.
9. Gregory Apcar, British str., from Calcutta.
9. Holstein, German str., from Swatow.
9. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
9. Ningpo, British str., from Swatow.
9. Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
9. Richmond Castle, British str., from Amoy.
9. Sagami, British str., from New York.
9. Taicheong, German str., from Java.
9. Tungshing, British str., from Chefoo.
10. Banca, British str., from Kobe.
10. Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.
10. Euplectella, British str., from Aroe Bay.
10. Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
10. Hsin Fung, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
10. Mario Jebson, Ger. str., from Samarang.
10. Preussen, German str., from Yokohama.
10. Tantalus, British str., from Foochow.
11. Canada, German str., from Shanghai.
11. Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
11. Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
11. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
11. Kweilin, British str., from Shanghai.
11. Mad. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
11. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen.
11. Taintau, German str., from Bangkok.
12. An Pho, British str., from Swatow.
12. Changsha, British str., from Australia.
12. China, German str., from Hongay.
12. Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
12. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
12. M. Struve, German str., from Haiphong.
12. Rubi, British str., from Manila.
12. Shakano Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
12. Shanghai, British str., from Foochow.
12. Taiping, Chinese str., from Wuhu.
12. Wongkoi, German str., from Hoihow.
13. Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
13. Ajax, British str., from Manila.
13. Daig Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
13. Flintshire, British str., from London.
13. Kansu, British str., from Iloilo.
13. Kwang Ping, Chi. str., from Chingwantao.
13. Ningchow, British str., from Tacoma.
13. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
13. Rosario, British sloop, from Labuan.
13. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
14. Ayr, Norwegian str., from Kutchinotzu.
14. Glenfarg, British str., from London.
14. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
14. Hupeh, British str., from Cebu.
14. Kufong, British str., from Manila.
14. Mansang, British str., from Sandakan.
14. Progress, German str., from Swatow.
14. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
14. Tjilatjap, Dutch str., from Macassar.
14. Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
14. Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.

NOVEMBER—DEPARTURES.

6. Benalder, British str., for Saigon.
6. Biugo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
6. China, American str., for San Francisco.
6. Elg, Norwegian str., for Canton.
6. Kasuga Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
6. Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.
6. Petchaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
7. Bengal, British str., for Europa.
7. Chingwo, British str., for San Francisco.
7. Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
7. Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
7. Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Oscar II., Norw. str., for Kutchinotzu.
7. Paul Rovere, Amr. ship, for Newcastle.
7. Seneca, British str., for New York.
7. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
7. Simongau, Dutch str., for Amoy.
7. Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
8. Au Pho, British str., for Amoy.
8. Atholl, British str., for Nagasaki.
8. Clavering, British str., for Moji.
8. Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
8. Hoihao, French str., for Haiphong.
8. Michael Jebson, German str., for Hoihao.
8. Prima, Norwegian str., for Karatsu.
8. Wosang, British str., for Canton.
9. Amara, British str., for Moji.
9. Au ping Maru, Jap str., for Coast Ports.
9. Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
9. Dr. H. J. Kier, Dutch str., for Manila.
9. Hangchow, British str., for Chinkiang.
9. Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
9. Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
9. Kweiyang, British str., for Tientsin.
9. Rose, British barque, for Singapore.
9. Ulysses, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Daijio Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
10. Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.
10. Holstein, German str., for Haiphong.
10. Hopsang, British str., for Moji.
10. Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
10. Kowloon, German str., for Canton.
10. Progress, German str., for Swatow.
10. Tuugshing, British str., for Canton.
11. Banca, British str., for Bombay.
11. Beemohr, British str., for Yokohama.
11. Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
11. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
11. Hsin Fung, Chinese str., for Canton.
11. Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
11. Lyemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
11. Mutine, British sloop, for Weihaiwei.
11. Namsang, British str., for Calcutta.
11. Nanshan, U.S. collier, for Manila.
11. Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.
11. Oanfa, British str., for Victoria.
11. Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
11. Shantung, German str., for Singapore.
11. Sungkian, British str., for Manila.
11. Tantalus, British str., for London.
12. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
12. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
12. Kweilin, British str., for Canton.
12. Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
12. Preussen, German str., for Europe.
12. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
12. Richmond Castle, Brit. str., for New York.
12. Sagami, British str., for Shanghai.
13. An Pho, British str., for Saigon.
13. Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
13. Haicong, British str., for Coast Ports.
13. Shanghai, British str., for London.
13. Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
14. Canada, German str., for Hamburg.
14. Clara Jebson, German str., for Hoihow.
14. Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
14. Fausang, British str., for Moji.
14. Indrapura, British str., for Portland.
14. Ischia, Italian str., for Bombay.
14. Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., for London.
14. Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
14. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
14. Rubi, British str., for Manila.
14. Shawmut, Amr. str., for Tacoma.
14. Wosang, British str., for Weihaiwei.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Bengal, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Fontana, Messrs. T. E. Pearce, E. A. Weichert, Singletary, Del Font, Bursac, Oggeri, G. Baldissero, D. Baldissero, L. Baldissero, G. Bredda, M. Bettino, P. Gallo, D. Gallo, R. D. Watt, A. Veronda, A. Sandino, F. Hubbe, Getley, Mitchell, and Dr. O. Müller; for

London, Mr. G. J. Mackenzie; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. M. N. Gobhai; for London, Mr. Lynn Miller.

Per Chusan, from Bombay, for Hongkong, Mohamed Karim; from London, Mrs. France child and infant, Mrs. Stephens, Misses Moore, Britton and Simpson, Rev. J. A. France, Rev. Keale, Messrs. D. F. Ranson, Morfey and W. Tezer; from Marseilles, Mrs. Vivible, Mr. M. Mira Perez; from Brindisi, Capt. S. R. Fromantle; from Aden, Capt. Mutter, Mons. de la Taille, Mons. C. David, Mons. Colloinco, Madame David, Madame Harmand, Messrs. C. H. Falloon, Kikontski, R. L. White, Miller and Freburt; from Singapore, Messrs. E. B. Fredwen, Sirdar Khan and Castilho; from London, for Shanghai, Mrs. Getla and child, Mrs. Whistler, child and two infants and Nurse, Mrs. Gedye, child and infant, Mrs. Vivible, Miss S. Gill, Arrowsmith and Brewer, Rev. S. Lee, Rev. H. Jowett, Rev. Pillow, Rev. Gedye, Sister Searle, Mr. H. Whistler.

Per Prinz Heinrich, for Hongkong, from Bremen, Mrs. D. Fögesen and child, Miss B. Düring, Messrs. Ch. Mencke and Ch. Léon; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brewin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Logan and child, Messrs. W. Shewan, E. Thomas, C. H. Newman, and W. S. Burrows; from Genoa, Mrs. A. Fuchs and children, Mrs. H. Stone, Mrs. and Master Gray, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. F. Müller, Misses Th. Kramer, M. Kuntzel, M. Johaunsen, and Hayes, Messrs. Otto Günz, C. Badenhoef, and H. Bollmann; from Singapore, Mr. A. B. Ross and Miss B. Granstein.

Per Preussen, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. G. Miles, Mr. and Mrs. v. Condit, Messrs. D. Ismail and H. Bauer; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. A. Young, Messrs. A. Farsbøn, F. Grawii, Kitajina, and K. Ogawa; from Shanghai, Mrs. M. Moses, Mr. and Mrs. Kingsford, Mr. and Mrs. G. Moxon, Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. F. Ezra, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Dr. F. M. Brister, Col. Willy, Capt. Keller, Mr. and Miss Gubbay, Mr. and Miss Lutro, Messrs. E. Schniewind, Willis E. Gray, H. Telterer, E. F. Spethman, T. Welle, A. Brooke Smith, C. Hopper, G. Freedly, F. H. Faquet, W. K. Rujon, F. M. Gons, F. S. Apen, G. S. Riley, C. L. Gropp, E. R. Wagner, E. Owen, and L. Cromer; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Capt. and Mrs. Sanderson; for Genoa, from Yokohama, Capt. Müller; from Kobe, Mr., Mrs. and Master Pepper, Mrs. and Miss Raspe; from Shanghai, Mrs. S. G. Tinsley, Rev. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Saphire, Mr. and Mrs. Bender, Messrs. C. H. Ryde, Solf, K. H. Schadd, F. Schau, and G. Rose; from Foochow, Mr. M. Holt; for Antwerp, from Shanghai, Mr. F. Hayé; for London, from Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. Wood, Messrs. McPhail, Wade, and Davidson; from Kobe, Mr. T. C. Vernall; from Shanghai, Mrs. Moses, Rev. and Mrs. Mitchell, and Miss Marton.

DEPARTED.

Per Chusan, from Hongkong, for Bombay, Col. Lambkin and Mr. A. Rahim; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Comer, Mr. and Mrs. Welch, and Mr. Hugh Bade; for London, Staff-Sergt. and Mrs. Davies and two children, Lieut. and Comdr. Alfd. S. Barker, Messrs. M. G. Megaw and R. H. Norton, from Shanghai, for London, Mr. J. G. Mackenzie; from Yokohama, for Bombay, Mr. M. N. Gobhai; for London, Mr. Lynn Miller.

Per Preussen, for Hamburg, for Hamburg, &c., Rev. and Mrs. Bender, Mr. and Mrs. Center, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Corner, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Have and child, Rev. and Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Moses, Mrs. W. E. Raspe, Miss V. Raspe, Capt. and Mrs. Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs. Saphire and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Solf and child, Mrs. S. G. Tansley, Rev. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt and children, Capt. Jasper and Müller, Miss Morton, Miss Eleonor Hunting, Messrs. E. B. Hunting, Stella Hunting, B. Abbring, Chas. H. Bade, Davidson, R. de Favange, Thomas Gibb, Joseph Hazé, M. Holdt, Jacobsen, G. Kruya, Kodama, W. L. Lossmüller, E. J. Meugens, Phail, C. H. Ryde, K. H. Schadd, T. N. Steen, and Wade.

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